

Date Established
2/02Date Revised
07/2011Next Revision Date
07/2013

EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT

FAST TRACK GUIDELINES

Policy: Patients with minor illness or injury will be evaluated in Fast Track to expedite their care.
Guidelines:

1. Patients are triaged and designated as fast track (FT) patients.
2. The midlevel practitioner examines and treats patients under the direct supervision of the Emergency Department physician.
3. The goal is for the midlevel practitioner to discharge patients in an average of one hour.
4. Complicated illness or injury may require specialty services such as orthopedics, dentistry or ophthalmology evaluation. If patient management can be expedited in fast track, patients receive care and are discharged as soon as possible from fast track.
5. Patients requiring intensive treatment such as conscious sedation are moved to the main treatment area for further management or admission.

PATIENT COMPLAINTS TO BE TRIAGED TO FAST TRACK

1. Eye problems: injury and infection
2. Ear problems: injury and infection
3. All throat problems (excluding respiratory distress)
4. All dental problems
5. Lacerations
6. UTI symptoms unless elderly, vomiting, hypotensive, abdominal pain
7. STDs with no abdominal pain
8. URIs including cough, cold, sinusitis, bronchitis (pulse ox>95%)
9. Insect bites/stings
10. Animal bites
11. Rashes
12. Burns (restricted to one major body part)
13. Soft tissue injuries
14. All occupational needlesticks
15. Insect /mite infestations
16. Nasal injuries (exclude epistaxis)
17. Isolated minor trunk injuries
18. Isolated extremity injuries (exclude open fractures or those requiring conscious sedation)
19. Prescription refills
20. Vaginal complaints: itching, discharge, lesions, FB (with no associated abdominal pain)
21. Level 4,5 patients (according to 5 Level triage acuity system)

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EXAMPLES OF WHAT SHOULD NOT GO TO FAST TRACK

1. Repeat ED visits
2. Patients requiring conscious sedation
3. Patients with positive loss of consciousness
4. Cardiac workups