

7.7 Trauma Mortality Review—TYPE II

Applicable Levels

LI, LII, LIII, PTCI, PTCII

References

None

Definition and Requirements

In all trauma centers, all cases of trauma-related mortality and transfer to hospice must be reviewed and classified for potential opportunities for improvement.

Deaths must be categorized as:

- Mortality with opportunity for improvement
- Mortality without opportunity for improvement

Additional Information

Mortalities include DOA, DIED, and patients who died after withdrawal of life-sustaining care.

The goal of reviewing events is to identify potential opportunities for improvement.

A death should be designated as “mortality with opportunity for improvement” if any of the following criteria are met:

- Anatomic injury or combination of severe injuries but may have been survivable under optimal conditions
- Standard protocols were not followed, possibly resulting in unfavorable consequence
- Provider care was suboptimal

Reviewing each mortality and transfer to hospice provides the greatest assurance that the trauma program will identify opportunities for improvement. Transfers to hospice require review to ensure there were no opportunities for improvement in care that might have significantly changed the clinical course that ultimately led to the decision for hospice care.

Measures of Compliance

Trauma multidisciplinary PIPS committee meeting minutes documenting review of mortalities

Resources

None