



San Joaquin County

Emergency Medical Services Agency



Continuous Quality Improvement Report

Performance Improvement Activity: Develop and monitor performance indicators and outcomes for pediatric patients that are triaged directly from the field to a designated pediatric trauma center as directed by EMS Policy No. 550.04, Pediatric Trauma Triage Criteria.

Reporting Period (month, quarter, year): Calendar Year, 2005 (January-December)

1. Opportunity/Issue/Problem **(PLAN)**

- Opportunity: Evaluate and improve pediatric trauma outcomes.
- Problem: EMS Policy No. 550.04 was implemented in 2000 without any subsequent monitoring.
- Goal: Obtain baseline policy compliance and outcome data.

2. Solution Implemented **(DO)**

- Collect data from local hospitals to identify 100% of patients who meet criteria for pediatric trauma triage.
- Collect data from prehospital care reports to identify 100% of patients that are triaged directly to a pediatric trauma facility.

3. Data Elements Collected for Evaluation

- Date of Injury, Age
- Air ambulance provider, Transport time
- Mechanism of Injury (MOI)
- Revised Trauma Score (RTS)
- Trauma Injury Severity Score (TRISS)
- Type of specialty care required
- Disposition
- Discharge Diagnosis
- Policy Criteria Compliance

4. Results and Data Analysis **(STUDY)**

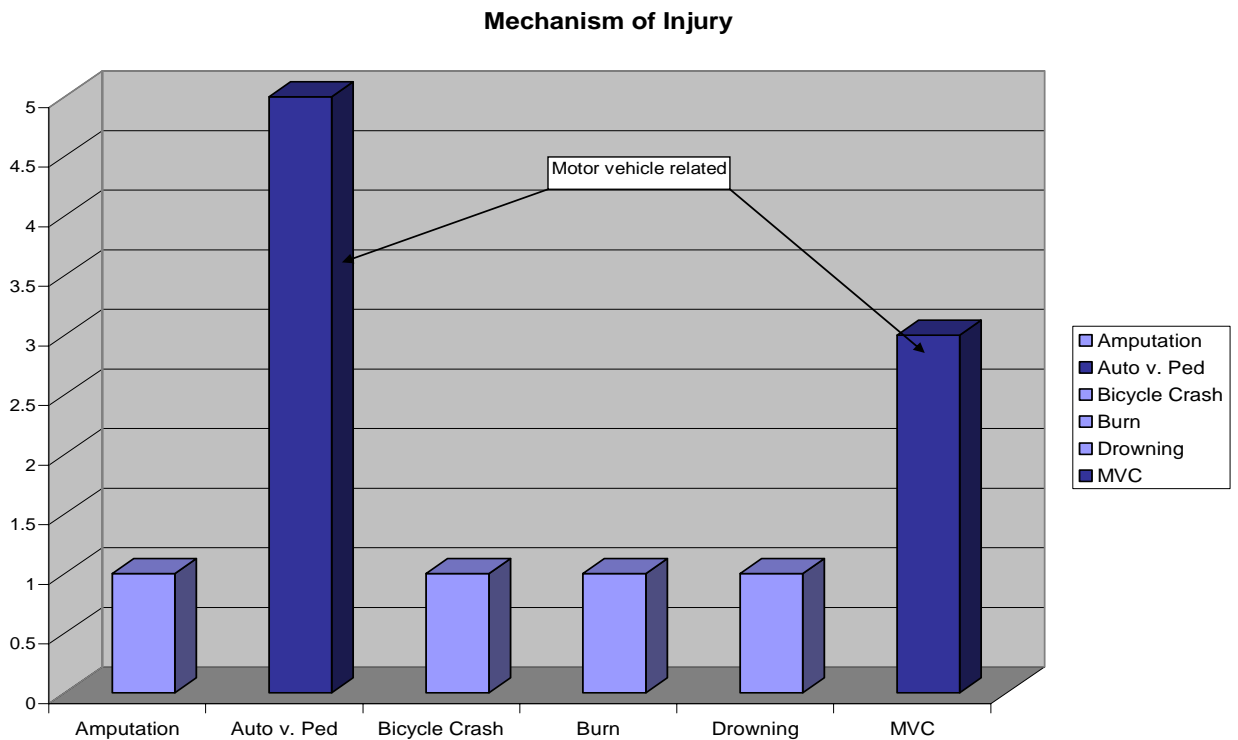
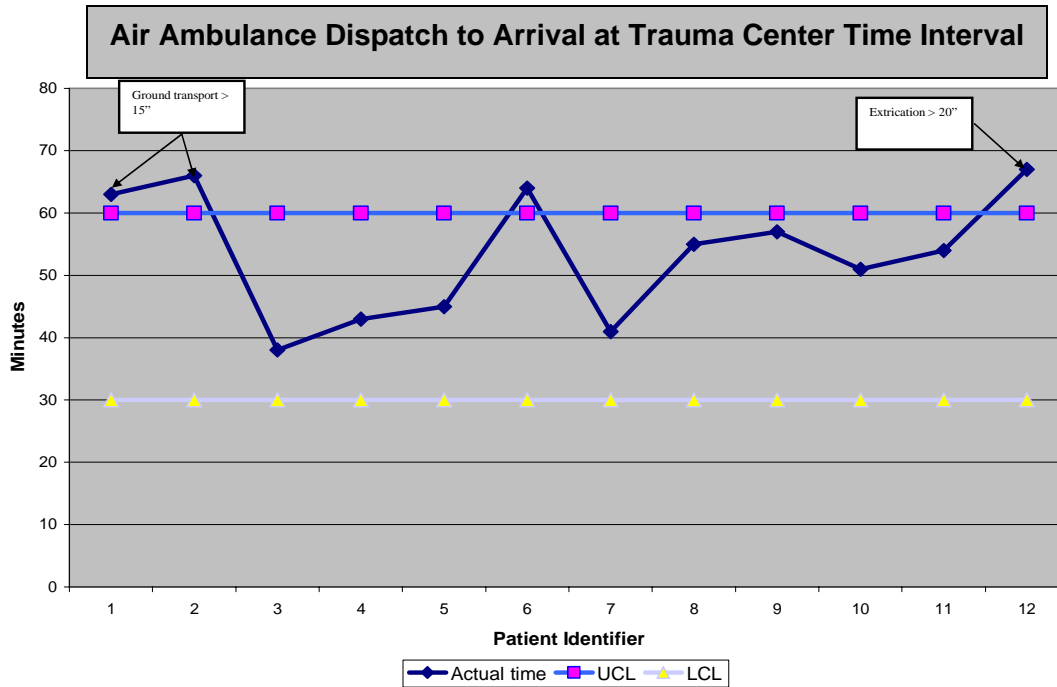
Analysis of data for the CY 2005 includes the following results:

- A total of 12 children were directly triaged to a pediatric trauma center during CY 2005.
- 92% of patients were admitted as inpatients.
- 92% of patients required specialty care.
- 100% of pediatric outcomes were consistent with quality trauma care based upon trauma injury severity score probability of death rates.

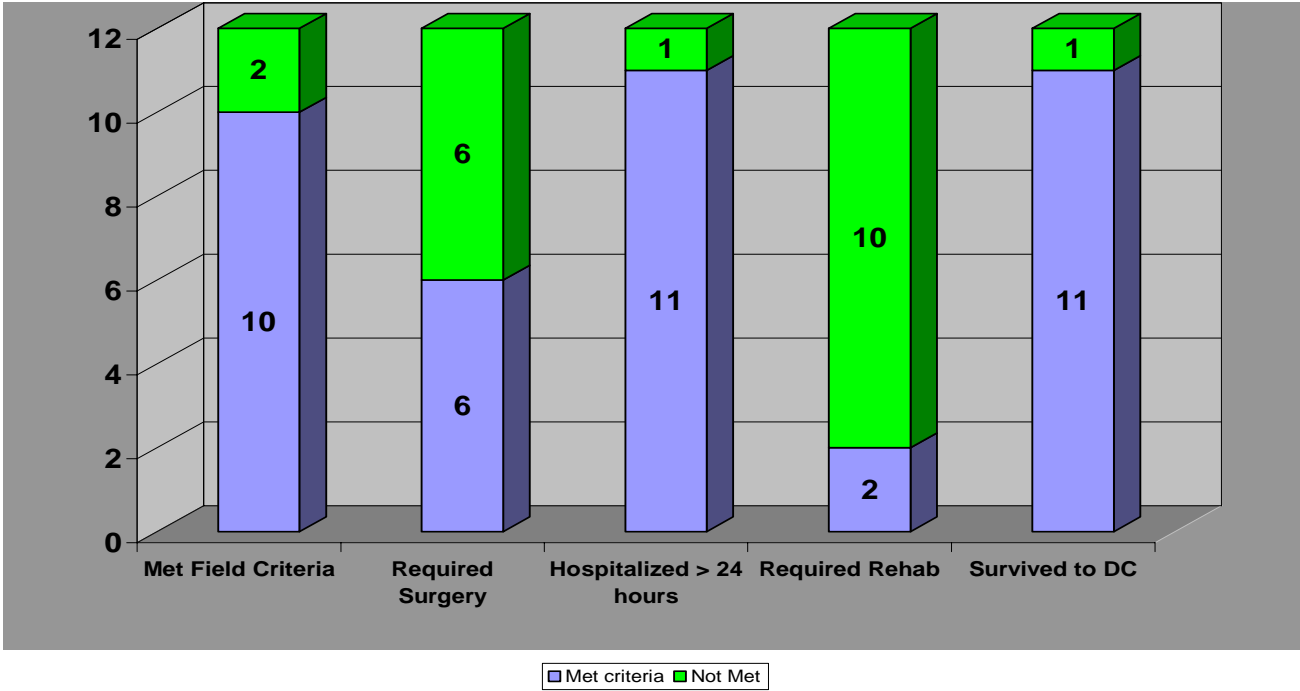
5. Conclusions and Recommendations **(ACT)**

- Overall policy criteria compliance was 85%.
- All patients that met policy criteria were appropriately identified and triaged.
- Recommendations:
 1. Maintain policy for direct transport from the field to a designated pediatric trauma center for severely injured children identified by anatomical and physiological findings.
 2. Update current policy to address system changes. There have not been any revisions to this policy in six years, despite significant system wide changes.
 3. Provide a written report of findings and a refresher on policy criteria to all prehospital caregivers via San Joaquin County EMS Agency web site.

- Implement continuous quality improvement monitoring of 100% of pediatric patients that are triaged directly from the scene to a pediatric trauma center based upon policy criteria.



Pediatric Trauma Triage Criteria Policy Compliance



Trauma Injury Severity Scores

