



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive



CLINICAL DIRECTIVE 06/2012
FROM: Medical Director
TO: Control Supervisors and Control Staff
SUBJECT: Protocols 17 and 30: Fracture with gross deformity or open fracture-BRAVO Override Protocols 17 and 30 may lead to an ALPHA or OMEGA call determinant for an injury to a "Not Dangerous Proximal Body Area" or a "Not Dangerous Distal Body Area". ProQA instructs "If a gross deformity or open fracture is present, override to the appropriate non-referral code". In these circumstances (ie 17-ALPHA/17-OMEGA/30-ALPHA/30-OMEGA call determinant) where gross deformity or open fracture is present, the call should be upgraded to a BRAVO determinant.
RATIONALE: Fractures that are grossly deformed carry a risk of distal limb ischaemia (ie time critical). Open fractures require prompt in hospital treatment and usually require urgent operative treatment. In both cases, an ALPHA call determinant is not appropriate. These calls should be given a BRAVO call determinant.
EFFECTIVE FROM: October 2nd 2012 EFFECTIVE TO: Indefinitely
QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS ON THIS DIRECTIVE: Control Centre Manager

Clinical Directives are formulated by the National Ambulance Service Medical Directorate, the National Ambulance Service Education and Competency Assurance Team, the Dublin Fire Brigade Medical Director, the Dublin Fire Brigade EMS Support Team and the Irish Coast Guard Chief Crewman (Standards). Clinical Directives apply to all relevant staff in the HSE National Ambulance Service, Dublin Fire Brigade and Irish Coast Guard helicopter winch-crew.

Seirbhís Náisiúnta Otharchairr
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