For transport destination of a TRAUMA ALERT PATIENT, refer to TRAUMA ALERT PROTOCOL

If non life-threatening

Transport the patient to hospital of the patient's choice.

If the patient is unable to make such a judgment (minors, etc.), transport the patient to the hospital of choice of an appropriate party acting on behalf of the patient (parent, etc.).

If the patient expresses no choice and if no other appropriate party is available or has reason to act on behalf of the patient, transport the patient to the closest appropriate facility.

If life-threatening

Transport the patient to the closest appropriate facility.

If the closest appropriate facility conflicts with the choice of the patient or the party acting of behalf of the patient, contact the on-line medical control physician at the hospital of choice and request orders to transport the patient to the closest appropriate facility.

Provide the receiving hospital with a complete patient report as soon as possible.

Do not delay patient transport to the closest appropriate facility while waiting for a physician order to change destinations.

Patient must be transported to the receiving facility as dictated by the receiving emergency department physician. (on-line medical control physician).
Baker Act Patients

Per Florida Statutes chapter 394, all patients transported under a "Baker Act" should be taken to a Baker Act receiving facility. In this area only Baptist Hospital and West Florida Hospital are registered as receiving facilities.

This pertains only to patients who are "Baker Acted" by law enforcement and/or medical personnel.

Notes

No pre-hospital care provider is to influence the choice of hospital by the patient in any way; nor is any pre-hospital care provider to assume that any hospital cannot offer its usual range of services and preferentially divert patients to selected facilities.

The paramedic reserves the right to determine which facility is closest considering mileage, transport times, traffic patterns and density, and zone where incident occurred.