

Definition of a **Trauma Team Alert** patient:
South Dakota Trauma System

Physiological Absolutes:

Adult:

GCS < 10

BP < 90

Pulse > 120

Respirations < 10 or > 29, or airway obstruction or respiratory compromise requiring use of advanced airway

Child:

The Pediatric Assessment Triangle should be the basis for all pediatric emergencies

Anatomic Absolutes:

- Penetrating injury to chest, abdomen, head, neck
- Limb Paralysis (associated with Trauma)
- Flail Chest
- Amputation proximal to wrist or ankle

Strong degree of suspicion should be used for the following patients, but this does not constitute an automatic categorization of a severe trauma patient:

- Pelvic Fractures
- Falls from 2 times the height of the patient
- Patients involved in high energy MVA's
- Death of an occupant in the same compartment
- Auto-Pedestrian or Auto-Bicycle with impact of greater than 5 MPH
- Pedestrian that was thrown or run-over
- Significant recreational vehicle or farm equipment incident
- Significant injury associated with a large animal

The following **co-morbidities** should also offer a high degree of suspicion

- Age < 5 or > 55
- Pregnancy
- Chronic medical illness



SOUTH DAKOTA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH