Trauma Services BC is dedicated to ensuring optimal care for trauma patients in British Columbia.

How we serve the people of BC

Trauma is any injury to the body caused by an external force, such as vehicular collision, a fall or gun shot. Traumatic injuries can be intentional or unintentional and can range from minor to catastrophic. Trauma is the primary cause of death for people under age 45 in Canada, accounting for more potential “years of life lost” than heart disease and lung cancer combined.

Management of traumatic injury is a complex medical event which requires coordinated care from the health care system. Based on research which indicates that integrated trauma systems improve patient outcomes, Trauma Services BC oversees an integrated system of injury care and collaborative prevention strategies.

Providing direction and provincial leadership, Trauma Services BC:

- Partners with health care providers in each health region to establish and ensure a best practice approach to medical care.
- Collaborates with BC Emergency Health Services to ensure transport of trauma patients to appropriate hospitals.
- Provides data to provincial and regional injury prevention and public health partners to support injury prevention.

22% increase in the rate* of patients hospitalized with serious injuries over the past four years *per 100,000 population

94 94 trauma hospitals across BC

2700 trauma patients transferred to higher level of care hospitals each year

30,000 admissions to hospital for injury each year
180,000 ambulance responses for injury each year
420,000 emergency room visits for injury each year
750,000 BC residents injured each year
Trauma Services BC improves trauma care through:

Development and management of a strategic provincial system plan for trauma care.

Trauma Services BC establishes a provincial vision, goals and objectives for coordinated trauma care in collaboration with its partners to ensure alignment between regional and provincial priorities.

Provincial surveillance and evaluation of trauma care delivery.

Trauma Services BC monitors and analyzes system trends and gaps by collecting a wide range of data on traumatic injury, mortality and care delivery across BC. Trauma Services BC establishes benchmarks for minimum standards of trauma care and produces analytic reports to inform and improve trauma management and practice.

Leadership of system improvement for optimal management of trauma care in BC.

Trauma Services BC is committed to improve quality of patient care by overseeing a provincial system improvement program. The program enables health authorities to collaboratively review quality of trauma care in BC and identify opportunities to develop provincial standards and guidelines.

Research and education

Trauma Services BC maintains a provincial trauma registry (BC Trauma Registry) and a burn registry (BC Burn Registry) which contain clinical and demographic information on all trauma patients in BC.

Trauma Services BC supports research by being the most comprehensive source of trauma data and by partnering with trauma researchers on studies that focus on the improvement of BC’s trauma care system.

Research and education:

- 6% of yearly admissions to hospital for injury are children under age 16
- 55% of yearly admissions to hospital for injury are adults over age 64
- 9000 injured patients suffer permanent disability each year
- 1500 deaths from injury each year

Trauma Services BC

Provincial Health Services Authority

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visit us at: www.phsa.ca/our-services/programs-services/trauma-services-bc