

Why a Trauma Center? Cont.

The trauma center is located in the Emergency Department and provides care to those that are significantly injured. Injuries could result from:

- Motor vehicle crashes
- Snowmobile, ATV or motorcycle crashes
- Head injuries
- Stabbings or gunshot wounds.

Our Trauma Center

- Has 24-hour trauma coverage by general surgeons and other specialty services
- Has X-ray and ultrasound equipment in the trauma bay, and CT and MRI equipment is available on site
- Provides community awareness and education programs for injury prevention
- Hosts an annual Trauma Symposium which is a day-long educational program focused on a multidisciplinary approach for trauma care and awareness
- Ensures that the trauma team is educated, trained, and credentialed to comply with best practices and provide superior care to our trauma patients, including Trauma Nursing Core Course (TNCC), Emergency Nursing Pediatric Course (ENPC) and Advanced Trauma Life Support (ATLS)
- Utilizes a quality improvement program for a continuous evaluation of the program and searches for opportunities to better serve our community.

For more information about preventing injuries, visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at cdc.gov.

For a home fall prevention checklist for older adults, please visit: CDC.gov.



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Trauma Center



The St. Elizabeth Campus of Mohawk Valley Health System (MVHS) is an ACS-Verified Trauma Center.

For a trauma victim, the first hours after an injury are when an accident victim's chance of survival are greatest and is the time when any treatment for injury will be most effective. Prompt, effective medical care becomes a critical priority.

Risk of death is higher when severely injured patients are treated at non-trauma centers when compared to trauma designated centers. When minutes count, the MVHS specially trained trauma team is ready to care for the patient as soon as they arrive.



Trauma

Major trauma includes those injuries caused by blunt and penetrating physical forces that are significant enough to cause death or significant disability if not responded to and cared for quickly, in an organized trauma system.

Unintentional injuries are the fifth most common cause of death in the United States. Trauma experts estimate that if all accident victims received timely, state-of-the-art care, one in five deaths could be prevented.

Trauma is also a disease of the young. Approximately one half of all pediatric deaths and two thirds of teenage deaths are caused by unintentional injury. Death and disability from accidental trauma are as significant in this area of New York as in the rest of the nation.

Why a Trauma Center?

A well-coordinated trauma system can mean the difference between life and death, or between permanent or temporary disability. All patients require attention in a timely manner, especially in an emergency setting. In trauma circumstances, time and availability of staff become crucial.

As an American College of Surgeons-Verified Trauma Center, the St. Elizabeth Campus of MVHS can deal with those highly critical patients who require a team working together. Experience with the other team members and with the trauma procedures breeds success.



Trauma is the leading cause of death among Americans under 46 years of age.

Injury accounts for over 150,000 deaths and over 3 million non-fatal injuries per year in the United States. It is the leading cause of death for those age 46 or younger and fourth leading cause of death overall for all ages. Out of these deaths, traumatic brain injury (TBI) is the cause for a third of traumatic deaths in the United States.

It's estimated that 2.8 million Americans have suffered a TBI, with 282,000 hospitalized, and nearly 50,000 dying from this injury. A trauma center is equipped and staffed with trained providers to care to those suffering from traumatic injury including TBIs.