

Level I Trauma Center

Provides the highest level of surgical care to trauma patients. Being treated at a Level I Trauma Center increases a seriously injured patient's chances of survival by an estimated 20 to 25 percent

It has a full range of specialists and equipment available 24 hours a day and admits a minimum required annual volume of severely injured patients.

A Level I trauma center is required to have a certain number of, on duty 24 hours a day at the hospital:, surgeons, emergency physicians, anesthesiologists, nurses, an education program, and preventive and outreach programs.

Key elements include 24-hour in-house coverage by general surgeons and prompt availability of care in varying specialties — such as orthopedic surgery, neurosurgery, plastic surgery (plastic surgeons often take calls for hand injuries), anesthesiology, emergency medicine, radiology, internal medicine, oral and maxillofacial surgery and otolaryngology (trained to treat injuries of the facial skin, muscles, bones), and critical care — which are needed to adequately respond and care for various forms of trauma that a patient may suffer and rehabilitation services.

Additionally, a Level I center has a program of research, is a leader in trauma education and injury prevention, and is a referral resource for communities in nearby regions ¹⁾.

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http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trauma_center

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