

**Michigan**  
**System Protocols**  
**PATIENT PRIORITIZATION POLICY**

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Page 1 of 1

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***Patient Prioritization***

Purpose: To provide guidelines for prioritization of the patient's clinical status.

1. Priority 1

- A. Critically ill or injured patient with an immediate life-threatening condition.
- B. Examples include, but are not limited to:
  - a. Unstable or deteriorating vital signs
  - b. Compromised airway
  - c. Severe respiratory distress/failure
  - d. Cardiac arrest or post cardiac arrest
  - e. GCS  $\leq$  10
  - f. Significant blunt or penetrating trauma including but not limited to:
    - 1. Airway compromised
    - 2. Respiratory distress
    - 3. Signs of inadequate perfusion
  - g. Actively seizing patient

2. Priority 2

- A. Seriously ill or injured patient without immediate life-threatening condition.
- B. Examples include, but are not limited to:
  - a. GCS 11-14
  - b. Medical conditions such as chest pain, stroke, respiratory distress without immediate threat to life.
  - c. Altered level of consciousness, responding to verbal or painful stimuli
  - d. Significant mechanism of injury in patient with stable vital signs

3. Priority 3

- A. Ill or injured patients not fitting the above two categories who require medical attention and do not have a life-threatening problems.

4. Dead on Scene

- A. Refer to **Dead on Scene Procedure**.