



## Department of Health

ANDREW M. CUOMO  
Governor

HOWARD A. ZUCKER, M.D., J.D.  
Commissioner

SALLY DRESLIN, M.S., R.N.  
Executive Deputy Commissioner

July 6, 2018

Dear Chief Executive Officer:

The New York State Department of Health (Department) is issuing this guidance to provide **clarification** regarding the requirements a hospital seeking Level I, Level II or Level III trauma center designation must meet in the designation process as defined in the new trauma center regulations

As you are aware, the new Trauma Regulations, Title 10 Section 405.45, were published on May 17, 2018. Section 405.45(c)(1)(ii)(d) states, "A hospital seeking Level I, Level II or Level III trauma center designation shall require that any verification review team, as provided by the American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma (ACS-COT), or other entity determined by the Department, include a nurse reviewer. The hospital shall submit to the Department documentation confirming that a nurse reviewer was a member of the verification review team".

The Department acknowledges several trauma centers scheduled their verification and reverification visits prior to the enactment of Title 10 Section 405.45 and a nurse reviewer was not scheduled as part of the review team. The Department is offering the opportunity to apply for a waiver regarding the nurse reviewer.

The CEO of a hospital wishing to apply for a waiver should send a letter to Ryan Greenberg, Director, Bureau of Emergency Medical Services and Trauma Systems, and include documentation from the ACS-COT stating they are unable to provide a nurse reviewer for the visit without rescheduling the visit. The Department will then consider the request and will make a determination.

Should you have any questions regarding this, please contact Catherine Burns at (518) 402-0996.

Sincerely,

Ryan Greenberg  
Director  
Bureau of Emergency Medical Services  
And Trauma Systems