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DATE: September 26, 2024

TO: Hospital CEOs, Emergency Receiving Centers for Orange County

SUBJECT: POTENTIAL INTEREST IN FUTURE DESIGNATION AS A TRAUMA CENTER

Orange County's EMS Agency (OCEMS) consistently monitors the status of all specialty care centers within Orange County. While several factors are regularly reviewed, the volume of patients taken to specialty centers remains a significant metric. The impact of this volume on the capacity and capability of these facilities, including those providing trauma care, is particularly important. While no immediate indication exists demonstrating that designation of an additional trauma center is necessary, the slowly increasing care burden being experienced by these facilities suggests it may be prudent to consider this possibility.

Therefore, OCEMS is requesting a response from county Emergency Receiving Centers (ERCs) indicating a potential interest in designation as a future trauma center. This is not a formal Request for Interest or a Request for Proposal. This is just an initial exploration as to the level of interest, if any, in pursuing a possible future trauma center designation.

Please submit a written statement of interest to OCEMS by October 31, 2024. Again, it should be understood that this is not a formal request for designation by responding ERCs, but simply an expression of interest without obligation. Should OCEMS decide to pursue a formal RFP process in the future, the current responses by ERCs will be helpful in guiding the process and scope.

Sincerely

Carl H. Schultz, MD
EMS Medical Director

CHS:em#5184