

# TRAUMA

## STAG CRITERIA

### **WHAT IS STAG?**

The Scottish Trauma Audit Group (STAG) is a national audit within the Scottish Healthcare Audits programme at the Information Services Division of NHS National Services Scotland.

### **WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?**

In 2014 injury was the most common cause of death for those under the age of 45 years and the third most common cause of death for those aged less than 55 years (after neoplasm and diseases of the circulatory system).

STAG recommenced an audit of trauma in 2011 with the aim of improving the quality of care, overall experience and long term outcome of patients with significant injuries through measuring compliance against standards of care to support local quality improvement.

## SCORING SYSTEMS

### Abbreviated Injury Scale (AIS)

This is an anatomically-based, consensus-derived, global severity scoring system that classifies each injury by body region according to its relative importance on a 6 point ordinal scale. It is the basis for the Injury Severity Score (ISS) calculation of the multiply injured patient.

- AIS 1 – Minor
- AIS 2 – Moderate
- AIS 3 – Serious
- AIS 4 – Severe
- AIS 5 – Critical
- AIS 6 – Maximal (currently untreatable)

### Injury Severity Score (ISS)

This assesses the combined effects of the multiply-injured patients and is based on the AIS. It is an internationally recognised scoring system which correlates with mortality, morbidity and other measures of severity.

The 6 body regions are:

- Head or neck
- Face
- Chest
- Abdominal or pelvic contents
- Extremities or pelvic girdle
- External

The ISS is calculated as the sum of the squares of the highest AIS code in each of the three most severely injured ISS body regions.

Score range = 1 to 75 (75 automatically assigned if an injury is assigned an AIS of 6).