

APRIL 2017
SPECIAL EDITION

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Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center Foundation



EXPERT TRAUMA TEAM

READY 24/7

PRESIDENT/CEO'S MESSAGE

We are proud to announce our designation as the 15th Trauma Center in Los Angeles County, estimating that we will care for 1,500-2,000 trauma patients annually.

In preparation for the Trauma Center designation, we created nearly 200 new healthcare jobs, including specialty trained trauma, orthopedic, neuro, and maxio-facial surgeons along with nurses and other specialty trained service Associates. We will have invested nearly \$100 million in major capital improvements and new technology, including an expanded Emergency Department, a Trauma Intensive Care Unit, and a helipad for aerial transports. Proudly, twenty million dollars of this capital came from our Foundation as a result of generous donations from the community.

The Hospital's Trauma Center designation is a tremendous achievement. The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, business and community leaders, and our Hospital team of Associates worked tirelessly for the past two years to bring expert trauma care back to the region. We all share a deep commitment to ensuring the healthcare needs of our community are met, and I'd like to express my deepest gratitude to our Hospital Board, Associates, Volunteers and the many elected officials and community leaders who championed the new Trauma Center. Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center is committed to providing the highest quality patient and family-centered care, and now we are ready 24/7 to provide trauma care to those in critical need.



RICHARD E. YOCHUM, FACHE
President/CEO | Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center



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FEATURED on the COVER:

Front row, left to right:
Ashley Winston, RN (ED),
Anna Gibson, RT,
Alexia Deutsch, RN (TICU)
Middle row, left to right:
Melissa Mitchell, RN (ED),
Matthew Mendoza, EDT (ED),
Andre Tucker, RN(OR)

Back row: Schaefer EMT Richard Varela,
Michael Jimenez, MD, Director of Trauma
and Acute Care Services and
Schaefer Paramedic Alan Gonzalez

FROM THE MEDICAL DIRECTOR

The second you sustain a traumatic injury, the clock starts ticking. When seconds matter and someone's life is in jeopardy, the community can count on an expert trauma team ready at every moment to treat them and their loved ones. With Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center's (PVHMC) designation as a Trauma Center, we can now deliver appropriate and immediate treatment to trauma victims close to home. Residents of our communities no longer need to be rushed by ambulance or helicopter to Los Angeles, Colton or Irvine when every moment is critical to their survival.

When the unexpected intercedes and a traumatic event occurs, we're there to answer the call – any time, day or night. No matter what walk of life, background, credo, gender or ethnicity, every patient will be treated with the highest level of compassion and with elite, evidence-based trauma and acute care.

MICHAEL JIMENEZ, MD

*Medical Director of Trauma and Acute Care
Surgery Services*



A CONTINUUM OF CARE

The "Trauma Center" at Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center (PVHMC) is not one designated space; it's an expert level of care that is embedded throughout the entire Hospital.

"When an emergency comes through our doors, we immediately assess the severity of the patient's condition and begin treatment. If the patient meets specified trauma criteria, we quickly get them into the hands of our trauma team," said James Kim, MD, Medical Director of the Emergency Department. "From that moment on, every phase of their care is coordinated, through treatment, recovery and follow-up care."

"From Emergency Medical Service providers in the field and arrival to our trauma bays, to surgery and intensive care, through recovery in a regular Hospital bed, rehabilitation and follow-up after discharge, our specially trained Physicians and healthcare experts provide truly integrated care that impacts lives" said Darlene Scaffiddi, RN, Vice President of Nursing and Patient Care Services at PVHMC.

"The Trauma Center designation has brought a higher level of skill, technology and quality to all areas of the Hospital, Darlene said. "The standards of excellence we must meet as a Trauma Center extend into every facet of our care."



TRAUMA

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WHAT IS A **TRAUMA CENTER**?

When a loved one is suddenly injured, your instinct is to rush to the nearest hospital emergency department. But not every emergency department is equipped to handle traumatic injuries, said Stephanie Raby, RN, Trauma and Acute Care Surgery Services Director at Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center (PVHMC).

“Only certain hospitals in Los Angeles County – including PVHMC – are designated as trauma centers and are equipped to treat life-threatening injuries 24 hours a day, seven days a week,” she said.

Unlike regular hospital emergency departments, trauma centers must meet many rigorous standards established by the American College of Surgeons (ACS). That includes having a specially trained trauma surgeon at the hospital around the clock, whose sole purpose is to treat traumatically injured patients, Stephanie said.

PVHMC has eight trauma surgeons who are double board-certified in general surgery and surgical critical care. They’re supported by elite orthopedic surgeons, neurosurgeons and 24-hour in-house anesthesia coverage. As a Trauma Center, PVHMC also has:

- Immediately available operating rooms
- Staffed and available CT scanners
- Trauma-trained nurses and technicians
- Surgical critical care capabilities
- Around-the-clock Blood Bank operations

“We have the staff, resources and expertise critically injured patients need, right here in our community,” Stephanie said.

STEPHANIE RABY, RN
Trauma and Acute Care Surgery Services Director



PEDIATRIC TRAUMA

PVHMC WILL **TAKE CARE** OF THE KIDS

When a child is involved in a traumatic injury in the East San Gabriel Valley and every second counts, Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center (PVHMC) is there for them.

"While PVHMC is not a pediatric Trauma Center, it is an Emergency Department Approved for Pediatrics (EDAP) and our clinicians are trained to provide trauma care for children," said Aaron Jensen, MD, a Pediatric Surgeon at PVHMC and Associate Trauma Medical Director at Children's Hospital Los Angeles (CHLA). "The closest Pediatric Trauma Center is a minimum 40-minute ambulance ride or 30-minute helicopter transport away," he said. "Kids who may not survive that long will be rushed to PVHMC instead."

Once the child is stabilized, he or she may be transported to CHLA or another pediatric Trauma Center for additional care. Children without life-threatening injuries will often remain at PVHMC. "With no other Trauma Centers in our region, PVHMC fills a huge need," Dr. Jensen said. "Kids will get the care they need as quickly as possible."

AARON R. JENSEN, MD
*Pediatric Surgeon at PVHMC and
Associate Trauma Medical Director at CHLA*



ORTHOPEDIC TRAUMA & RECONSTRUCTION

WHEN BONES ARE BROKEN

A femur fracture received during a soccer game is very different from one suffered in a 70 mile-an-hour car accident. When serious cases come in, that's when Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center's (PVHMC) Orthopedic Trauma Surgeons go to work.

"Once the rest of the trauma team has addressed the most urgent threats to life, we'll rush the patient to the operating room and stabilize the bone with external pins and bars," explains Hrayr Basmajian, MD, Medical Director of Orthopedic Trauma. "This stops any internal bleeding caused by the fracture, which can be life-threatening. Then, one or two days later, we'll begin the work of making sure the bone heals properly."

Because even though patients are thankful to be alive, if they can't work, walk, or lift their children, they're still suffering.

"Trauma Surgeons not only save lives, we improve the quality of those lives," Dr. Basmajian said. "Our mission is to restore patients to as much normal function as we can." That can take two to four years of ongoing treatment.

"Patients with high-energy injuries need optimal care," Dr. Basmajian emphasized. "And now we can do it all at PVHMC."

HRAYR BASMAJIAN, MD
Medical Director of Orthopedic Trauma



TOGETHER



WORKING TOGETHER TO SAVE LIVES

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hen emergencies happen, Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center (PVHMC) and the Los Angeles County Fire Department work as a synchronized team to save lives.

It begins the moment paramedics on the scene determine that someone needs the high level of care that a trauma center provides, according to Clayton Kazan, MD, Medical Director of the Los Angeles County Fire Department.

"Paramedics will call the Hospital and talk to a specialty nurse in the Emergency Department who is designated to take their calls," he said. "The paramedics will describe the patient's injuries and say they want to bypass closer hospitals and come to PVHMC's Trauma Center. The nurse will give the paramedics treatment instructions and activate the trauma team at the Hospital."

As a specialty receiving center for heart attack and stroke patients, PVHMC has partnered with the L.A. County Fire Department for years. "They're a terrific Hospital and we're thrilled to partner with them to care for trauma patients as well," said Dr. Kazan.

NEW INJURY PREVENTION PROGRAM WILL ENHANCE COMMUNITY SAFETY

As part of its Trauma Center designation, Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center (PVHMC) is expanding its injury prevention program to decrease the incidence of trauma.

“Our Trauma Registry will tell us what traumatic injuries are most common, where they occur, and what the age bracket is. From that data, we’ll develop community education programs to help prevent these injuries in the first place.”

AIMEE CASTILLEJO, RN, BSN, CEN
Clinical Manager of Trauma and Acute Care Surgery Services

Programs may include fall prevention for the elderly, violence outreach and prevention, pedestrian safety and distracted driving, for example.

“PVHMC already participates in a program to reduce drunk driving in the teenage population, and we provide car seat safety information to new mothers and families to enhance child safety,” Aimee said. “Improving safety throughout the community will be a very significant part of our trauma team’s role.”

IMPROVING CARE BY THE NUMBERS

How do you know a trauma center is providing good care? The proof is in the numbers.

“We collect information on every single trauma patient, from the time they arrive at the Hospital until they leave,” said Sarah Cline, Trauma Performance Improvement Coordinator at Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center (PVHMC). “Did they get to the Operating Room fast enough? Did they have a good outcome? Were there any complications? How many days did they spend in the Hospital? How severe was their injury? And so much more. We use this information to improve treatment and provide the community with the best medical care we can.”

Data is entered every day into a “trauma registry;” an extensive computerized database that tracks the incidence, diagnosis and treatment of every trauma patient. Clinicians use the information to provide better care while patients are still in the Hospital and to improve the way things are done in the future.

“We also track where traumas happen and what caused them and we’ll be using that data to develop targeted injury prevention programs for the community,” Sarah said. “Such a wealth of data is an integral part of the trauma program.”



SARAH CLINE, CSTR
Trauma Performance Improvement Coordinator



A passion for healing. A love of giving.

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INTRODUCING THE REGION'S NEWEST TRAUMA CENTER



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