EXPLANATION OF LEVELS

GEORGIA DESIGNATED TRAUMA CENTERS

**Level I Trauma Facility** – is the highest level of trauma center designation and offers the greatest level of comprehensive trauma care, from prevention through rehabilitation. Level I facilities have the major responsibility for leading in trauma education, research and planning. Most facilities that meet Level I criteria will be academic facilities and have active surgical residency programs. Level I facilities are expected to meet other specific criteria as set forth by the Office of Preparedness/Trauma and utilizing the document, “Resources for Optimal Care of the Injured Patient”, published by the American College of Surgeons. Meeting specific criteria enables its qualification by DCH/Division of Public Health/Office of Preparedness/Trauma as a Level I facility.

**Level II Trauma Facility** – generally can provide the same level of clinical care as a Level I, but usually does not have the focus on research, education and systems planning. Some patients with very complex injuries may require transfer to a Level I center. Level II facilities are expected to meet other specific criteria as set forth by the Office of Preparedness/Trauma and utilizing the document, “Resources for Optimal Care of the Injured Patient”, published by the American College of Surgeons. Meeting specific criteria enables its qualification by DCH/Division of Public Health/Office of Preparedness/Trauma as a Level II facility.

**Level III Trauma Facility** – provides trauma assessment, resuscitation, emergency surgery, stabilization and if needed, transfer of patients requiring more definitive care to Level II or I centers. Level III facilities must meet other specific criteria as set forth by the Office of Preparedness/Trauma and utilizing the document, “Resources for Optimal Care of the Injured Patient”, published by the American College of Surgeons. Meeting specific criteria enables its qualification by DCH/Division of Public Health/Office of Preparedness/Trauma as a Level III facility.

**Level IV Trauma Facility** – provides advanced life support and stabilization of patients transported to their facility and expedite transfer of patients requiring more definitive care to Level I or II centers. Level IV centers may be a clinic or hospital in a remote area and may or may not have a physician available 24 hours a day. Level IV facilities must meet other specific criteria as set forth by the Office of Preparedness/Trauma and utilizing the document, “Resources for Optimal Care of the Injured Patient”, published by the American College of Surgeons. Meeting specific criteria enables its qualification by DCH/Division of Public Health/Office of Preparedness/Trauma as a Level IV facility.