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Lee A. Norman, M.D., Secretary

Laura Kelly, Governor

Notice of Trauma Designation Suspension

October 1, 2021

With the onset of the pandemic in March of 2020, the Kansas Trauma System extended the trauma designations for Kansas trauma centers for one year following the example of the American College of Surgeons (ACS). The first set of extended designations were set to expire this fall starting in September of 2021. When we originally issued this extension, we had anticipated being in the recovery period of the pandemic by this time.

With the current surge in COVID cases the physicians, nurses, and auxiliary staff involved in the individual trauma programs as well as the physicians and trauma program managers who conduct the on-site surveys are redirected into emergency preparedness efforts at this time.

The Kansas Trauma Program is suspending the trauma designation process. We will notify facilities when this process will resume. This applies to all currently designated facilities and pending initial trauma designations.

Facilities will be notified when the trauma designation process resumes. An updated timeline and instructions on how to submit materials will be provided.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Wendy O'Hare, Kansas Trauma Systems Director, at Wendy.OHare@ks.gov or (785) 296-1210.

We would like to thank all our Kansas trauma centers for their continued participation in and support of the Kansas Trauma System. We know designated trauma centers will continue to offer the appropriate level of trauma care during this time and the quality of service provision will not be impacted by this delay.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lee A. Norman M.D." followed by a blue ink signature that appears to be "ag".

Lee A. Norman, M.D. Secretary
Kansas Department of Health and Environment