

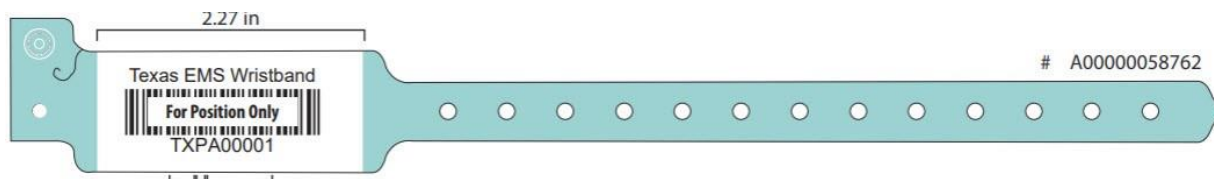
# BorderRAC Texas EMS Wristband Guideline



The Texas EMS Wristbands are distributed to DSHS-licensed EMS agencies, First Responder Organizations and hospitals to facilitate EMS transports, inter-facility transfers, and/or other BorderRAC approved situations within Trauma Service Area I. Wristbands can also be used to track patients during mass casualty incidents (MCI), evacuations, and disasters.

The purpose of the wristband is to link pre-hospital and hospital records across electronic medical record systems and throughout the continuum of care by enhancing patient tracking through the use of a unique identifier.

All EMS and Hospitals are enrolled in Pulsara for MCI patient tracking purposes and real-time information. Utilize the barcode for easier recording of the unique identifier and receive real-time information.



The wristband should not be cut off and should remain on the patient through transfer and until discharged home. If the wristband is soiled or illegible, replace the wristband but continue to use the original unique identifier rewrite it on the new wristband, and notify staff during handoff.

EMS providers place wristbands on every patient every day by air or ground on 911 transports or interfacility transfers to destination facilities. The left hand is the most preferred option to place. Only one EMS wristband should be on a patient.

Scan the barcode for easier recording of the unique identifier.

Hospitals record the unique identifier in electronic medical records (EMR) in the pre-identified query-able field. For trauma patients, enter the unique identifier number in the state trauma band field. Do not free text entry.

## **Interfacility Transfers**

### **Hospital Providers**

If a patient is being transferred out to another facility and does not have an EMS wristband, hospital staff should apply a wristband from the hospital supply before transport. Ensure that the EMS providers are informed. Record unique identifier in hospital record in appropriate field. The receiving hospital should confirm unique identifier wristband is on the patient.

### **EMS Providers**

If arriving for interfacility transfer and the patient does not already have a wristband, apply the EMS wristband on the patient. Ensure the sending hospital records the unique identifier within their records before transport. Record the unique identifier in the appropriate field.

*The wristband remains on the patient throughout care in the facility and is only removed at discharge to home or final disposition.*

**Mass Casualty Incident (MCI) Patients arriving other than by EMS**

If the patient arrives by means other than EMS, hospital staff must apply a wristband from the hospital supply and associate the patient with the MCI incident in Pulsara.

**Pulsara**

Pulsara platform is a HIPAA-compliant, secure, easy-to-use app that unites the entire care team between different agencies, departments, or organizations (rural or urban). The app is used to communicate event-based real-time patient information, team notifications, image sharing, audio/video calls, and ETA. By utilizing the platform, treatment times can be reduced as well as errors and transfers are simplified.

Please note: EMS wristbands are intended for EMS transports, inter facility transfers and MCI's.