Premier Health

2022

TRAUMA ANNUAL REPORT

PREMIER HEALTH EMERGENCY AND TRAUMA INSTITUTE

When life-threatening injuries happen, Premier Health's trauma teams provide the most experienced trauma care in the region. With coordinated efforts across the entire continuum of care – from prevention and prehospital treatment at the scene to hospitalization and rehabilitation – our trauma network is continuously ready to treat all traumas, from minor to severe.

As a leader in trauma care, we recognize the importance of sharing our expertise, staying current on medical practices and opportunities, and recognizing excellence. Participation in committees and conferences, such as the Southwest Ohio Regional Trauma System (SORTS) Committee, helps to improve regional trauma care. Our Massive Transfusion Protocol Committee collaborates with multiple disciplines within the hospital, as well as external partners such as the Community Blood Center, to ensure that we'll meet patients' needs while conserving blood resources, and our Trauma Recognition Program recognizes trauma successes both inside and outside of our facilities. Additionally, we conduct extensive research, provide injury prevention programs, and offer outreach to our EMS partners.

In October 2023, CareFlight Air and Mobile services will celebrate a major milestone: 40 years of unsurpassed service, providing immediate medical care and swift transport to patients across a 150-mile radius of our sites of care. That incredible level of dedication is rivaled only by the remarkable 41-year career of Candy Skidmore, Premier Health's vice president of emergency and trauma services and an administrator for CareFlight. Candy, who retired in January of this year, was instrumental in the continual advancement of both CareFlight and our trauma program, all while keeping patients at the center of everything.

Due to its specialized nature, treatment for patients with burns can be hard to find. The Miami Valley Hospital Regional Adult Burn Center is the most recognized burn care facility in the region – and one of only six in Ohio, offering top surgical capabilities and specialized treatments.

We are grateful to all those whose work makes our trauma program possible, and we thank our EMS partners and referring community hospitals for trusting us with their patients' care.

For a complete picture of our trauma services, including incredible patient recovery stories, we invite you to look through this report.

Sincerely,

Premier Health Emergency and Trauma Institute

MAGNET RECOGNIZED
AMERICAN NURSES CREDENTIALING CENTER

Nationally Recognized as the Highest Standard for Patient Care

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Est. 1992

LEVEL I TRAUMA CENTER

Miami Valley Hospital

Dayton, OH

Est. 2004

LEVEL III TRAUMA CENTER

Atrium Medical Center

Middletown, OH

OUR TRAUMA NETWORK The Most Experienced

LEVEL I TRAUMA CENTER REQUIREMENTS

A Level I Trauma Center requires not only trauma surgeons to be ready and available to care for patients but many other specialists including:

- Emergency Medicine Physicians
- Orthopedics
- Vascular Surgeons
- Neurosurgeons
- Cardiothoracic Surgeons
- Anesthesiologists

Trauma Network Highlights

Premier Health treats more trauma patients than any other hospital system in the region. Highlights of what makes our program unique include:

Emergency and Trauma Institute (ETI)

Comprised of physicians and leadership from all trauma centers and emergency departments, the ETI focuses on strategies that will improve access, clinical quality, patient experience, operational efficiencies, and reducing the cost of care.

Coordination of Care

All trauma center ORs are fully equipped and staffed 24/7. If a patient's injuries require the specialized skills of surgical specialists not readily available, the well-coordinated continuum of care allows for immediate transfer from our Level III Trauma Centers and emergency centers to Miami Valley Hospital's Level I Trauma Center via CareFlight.

Regional Adult Burn Center

As the only adult burn center in Dayton, Miami Valley Hospital's Regional Adult Burn Center provides intensive treatment and continuous specialized care for burn and wound patients from admission to discharge by a multidisciplinary team of specialists.

Est. 2019

LEVEL III TRAUMA CENTER

Miami Valley Hospital South

Centerville, OH

Est. 2021

LEVEL III TRAUMA CENTER

Upper Valley Medical Center

Troy, OH

Trauma Care in the Region

CareFlight Air and Mobile

Serving more than 450 agencies in 17 counties, CareFlight provides the fastest air medical transport in the region with the capability to transport two patients, plus the pilot and two certified flight nurses. A fleet of five ground Mobile Intensive Care Units (MICU) serve patients in a 75-mile radius from Miami Valley Hospital.

Physician Scene Response (PSR)

PSR utilizes a two-tiered approach (life or limb scenario in which a field amputation may be warranted or a mass causality incident) that would benefit from a physician response. The CareFlight Communication Center coordinates the response of a Miami Valley Hospital Level I trauma surgeon and an emergency medicine physician and arranges to fly the team, as well as blood products and necessary supplies, to the scene.

Medical Surgical Intensive Care Unit (MSICU)

Patients who are critically ill are cared for in the MSICU at Miami Valley Hospital by a team trained in the care of critically ill patients and neuro-trauma. The more than 40 beds in this unit are designed for patients with multiple complex injuries including spinal cord injuries, broken ribs, head trauma, and penetrating injuries.

When severe injuries occur, Premier Health provides complete trauma care with the goal of returning patients to their everyday lives.

ISS SCORE

1-9 Mild to Moderate:	4,807
10-15 Serious:	903
16-24 Severe:	517
>25 Critical:	326
75 Unsurvivable:	11
Non Codeable (No Injuries) :	287

The Injury Severity Score (ISS) is used by trauma professionals to assess trauma severity. ISS takes values from 0 to 75 and correlates with mortality, morbidity and hospital length of stay. A major trauma has an ISS greater than 15.

Learn more about these programs at **PremierHealth.com/TraumaSpectrum**

Trauma Unit

Miami Valley Hospital's 39-bed Advanced Care Trauma Unit provides intensive care patients, who have improved, the opportunity to continue their recovery in the hospital. Its purpose is to improve outcomes and ensure advanced, consistent care for trauma patients with complex injuries.

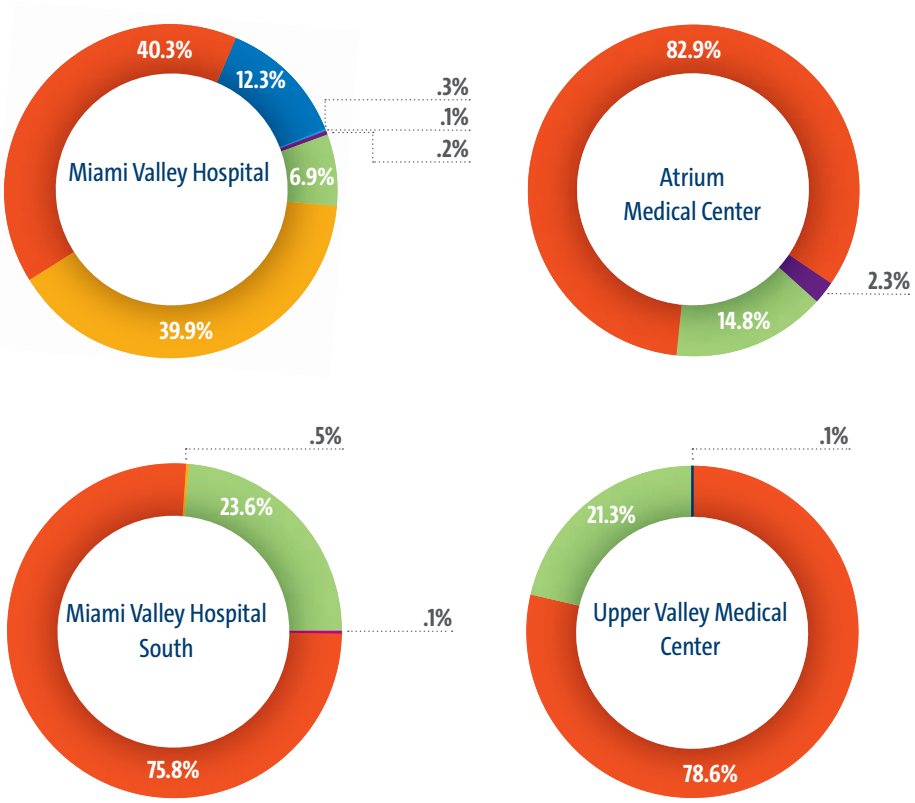
Rehabilitation

To gain strength, relearn skills, and manage pain, many patients continue their rehabilitation journey at Atrium Medical Center, Upper Valley Medical Center and The Rehabilitation Institute of Ohio, a joint venture between Premier Health and Encompass Health.

Trauma Outpatient Clinic

Once trauma patients are discharged from the hospital, they may be referred to Miami Valley Hospital's Trauma Outpatient Clinic for follow-up care. Here trauma specialists oversee their ongoing recovery by coordinating any ongoing outpatient therapy, medical imaging, laboratory tests, as well as successful completion of FMLA, BWC or insurance paperwork.

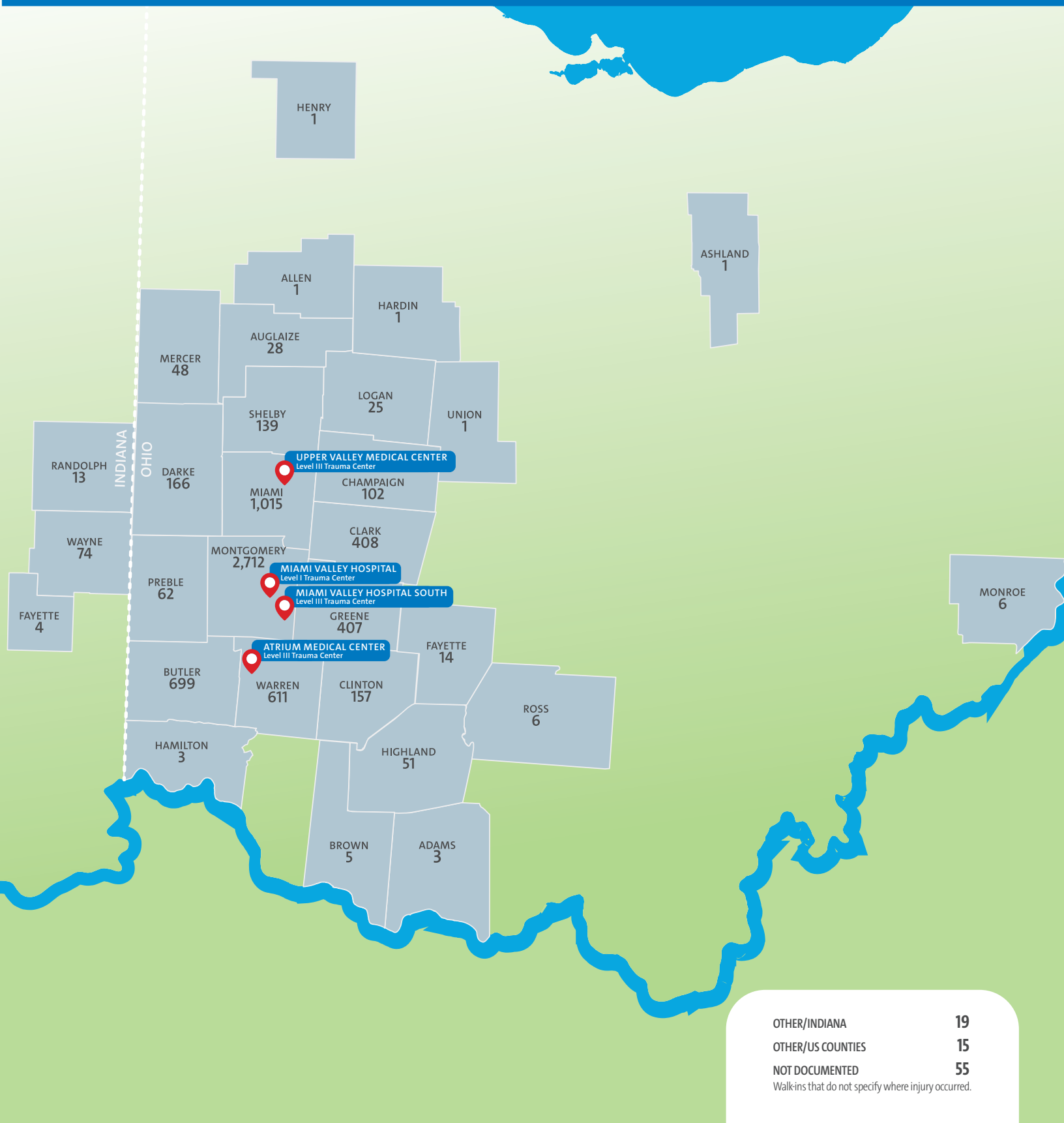
MODE OF ARRIVAL



- Private Ambulance
- Hospital Transfer Ambulance
- Ambulance Scene
- Hospital Transfer Helicopter
- Helicopter Scene
- Police
- Private Vehicle
- Not Determined

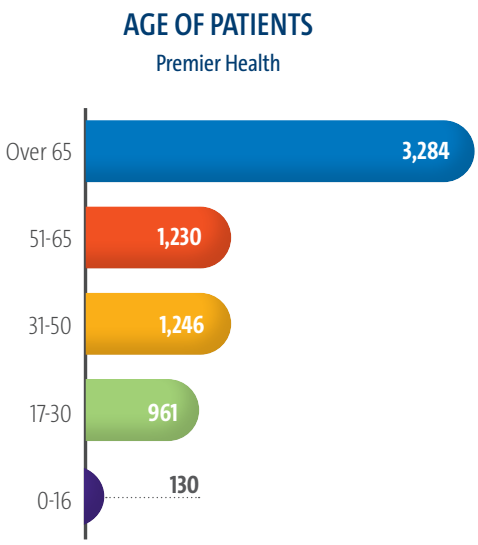
COUNTIES WHERE INJURIES OCCURRED

TOTAL TRAUMA VOLUMES 6,851



OTHER/INDIANA	19
OTHER/US COUNTIES	15
NOT DOCUMENTED	55

Walk-ins that do not specify where injury occurred.



Leaders in Trauma Care

As the leader in trauma care in Southwest Ohio, Premier Health takes seriously opportunities to share best practices, education and outreach, research, and community resources. With guidance and support from the Premier Health Emergency and Trauma Institute, this work extends far beyond the walls of our trauma centers. Across Premier Health, trauma teams are highly engaged in strengthening relationships with local and national organizations to provide expert trauma care to patients.

Learning and Sharing Best Practices

Premier Health participates in multiple committees and conferences yearly to stay current on new medical practices and opportunities to improve regional trauma care. Some examples include:

Southwest Ohio Regional Trauma System (SORTS) Committee – Develops goals, reviews data, and identifies opportunities to improve regional trauma care. The committee comprises representatives from regional trauma centers, Dayton Fire and EMS, and the Greater Dayton Area Health Association (GDAHA).

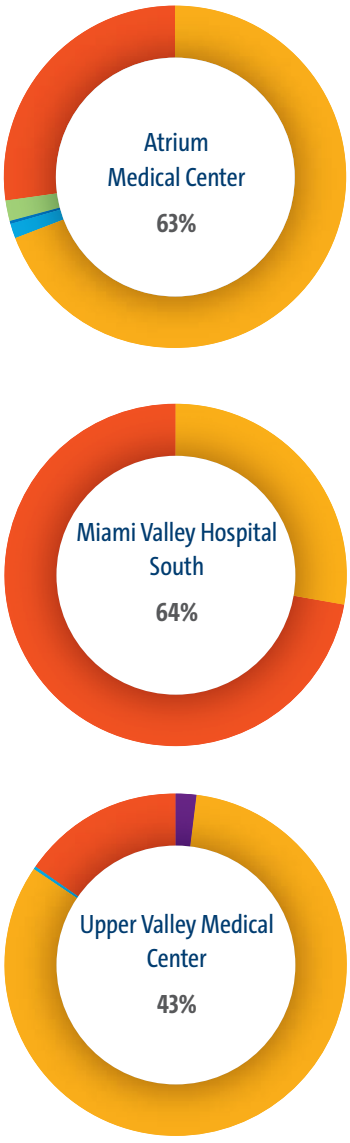
The Health Collaborative – Trauma program managers from southwest Ohio hospitals meet bi-monthly to discuss current issues facing their facilities. Additionally, the collaborative meets to review regional trauma data and to plan courses for Advanced Trauma Life Support (ATLS) and Trauma Nursing Core Course (TNCC).

Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS) Conference – Hosted by the Greater Dayton Area Hospital Association (GDAHA), this conference covers regional disaster management so hospitals can be prepared for environmental and mass casualty incidents.

MECHANISM OF INJURY

Mechanism	MVH	ATRIUM	MVHS	UVMC	TOTAL
Cut or Pierce	112	60	6	6	184
Drowning or Submersion	3	0	0	3	6
Fall	2048	657	264	599	3,568
Fire or Flame	69	16	2	6	93
Hot Object or Substance	32	0	1	3	36
Firearm	215	23	2	3	243
Machinery	52	2	1	1	56
Motor Vehicle Occupant	945	118	59	111	1,233
Motor Vehicle Motorcyclist	183	37	12	17	245
Motor Vehicle Pedestrian	93	0	6	7	106
Motor Vehicle Unspecified	8	0	0	1	9
Pedal Cyclist, Other	18	5	2	9	34
Pedestrian, Other	9	16	1	0	26
Transport, Other Land	136	11	20	24	191
Transport, Other	7	0	0	0	7
Natural or Environmental	47	0	2	4	53
Overexertion	7	1	8	2	18
Struck By or Against	212	44	25	18	299
Suffocation	9	4	0	0	13
Other Specified and Classifiable	37	16	7	7	70
Other Specified, Not Elsewhere Classifiable	28	12	10	6	56
Unspecified	4	0	0	0	4

PATIENTS STAYING AT A LEVEL III TRAUMA CENTER



Wright-Patterson Air Force Base and Wright State University's Boonshoft School of Medicine – Wright-Patterson trauma surgeons provide care at Miami Valley Hospital and take calls at Miami Hospital Valley South and Upper Valley Medical Center. Additional Air Force residents and surgeons work alongside attending physicians to gain clinical, surgical, and rounding experience. This unique experience educates Air Force residents and surgeons in a real-world setting. It also helps service members maintain their trauma and emergency skills so that they are equipped with the abilities needed to render aid on the battlefield.

Trauma and Critical Care Update – For 30 years, this annual conference has provided current information on the challenges health care professionals encounter when caring for critically ill or injured patients.

SAVE THE DATE

Trauma and Critical Care Update 2023

Friday, May 19 • 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sinclair Community College

Learn more about Trauma Update at
PremierHealth.com/TraumaUpdate

PERCENTAGE OF PATIENT DESTINATION FOLLOWING HOSPITAL DISCHARGE

	MVH	ATRIUM	MVHS	UVMC
Against Medical Advice	1.5	1.5	.2	0
Expired	4.6	.6	.6	.8
Home Healthcare	12.9	9.0	13.1	5.4
Home	48.2	40.7	46.2	43.5
Hospice	1.4	1.9	1.3	2.3
Jail	.6	.2	0	0
Long Term Acute Care	.8	5.0	.2	0
Psych	.5	.5	0	0
Rehab	11.2	13.6	28.2	6.5
Skilled Nursing Facility	18.2	25.7	6.9	38.1
Transfer to Other Ohio Hospital	.1	1.4	3.2	3.4

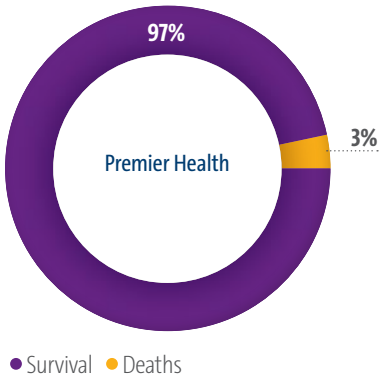
Outreach and Education for Professionals

The region's EMS staff, nurses, and emergency physicians benefit from extensive trauma education offered by Premier Health's trauma professionals. The skills learned are especially useful to physicians and nurses at hospitals that don't provide definitive trauma care. They learn to recognize traumatic injuries, apply the skills to stabilize these patients, and refer them to appropriate care.

Premier Health offers International Trauma Life Support (ITLS) and Advanced Trauma Life Support (ATLS) courses. Trauma residents benefit from Advanced Surgical Skills for Exposure in Trauma (ASSET) and Fundamental Critical Care Support (FCCS) training. We also hold TNCC (Trauma Nursing Core Course) for nurses at Premier Health or at our partner hospitals.

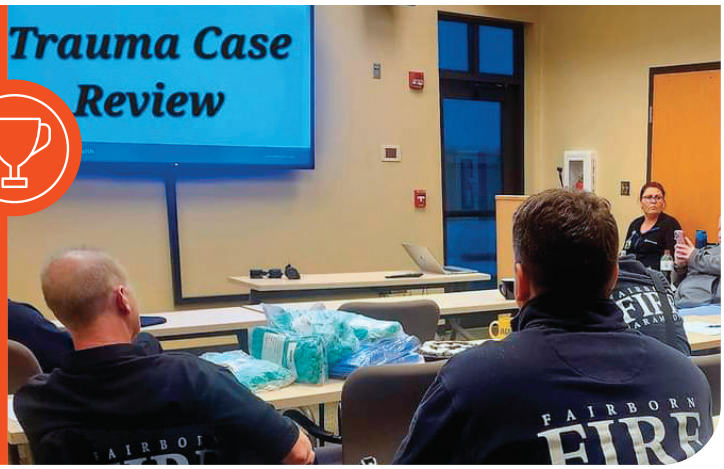
Specifically for EMS, trauma professionals work closely with our hospital EMS coordinators to provide various classes and presentations on trauma topics in the field, at Premier Health locations, and virtually. All courses offer continuing education credits through the Premier Health EMS Center of Excellence.

SURVIVAL



In 2022, the Premier Health EMS Center of Excellence distance learning program offered 22 classes that awarded 2,139 CE certificates to participants from 193 EMS agencies plus 3,975 CEs issued from in-person classes at 62 EMS agencies across our 11-county region.

Learn more about EMS Education opportunities at **PremierHealth.com/EMSEducation**



Learn more about our Injury Prevention Program at **PremierHealth.com/PreventInjury**

Leader in Research

Miami Valley Hospital far exceeds the American College of Surgeons requirement for Level I trauma centers to publish a minimum of 20 research publications every three years in respectable, reputable medical journals. In 2022, Miami Valley Hospital published 42 research studies. For a complete list, visit **PremierHealth.com/TraumaResearch**.

Caring for our Communities

Premier Health is a community leader in educating residents of all ages about how to prevent life-threatening injuries. Prevention programs target some of the most pervasive and serious causes of trauma we treat, including distracted driving and falls in the home.

Our trauma centers work closely with the Injury Prevention Center of Greater Dayton (located at Miami Valley Hospital), Montgomery County Safe Communities Coalition, Warren County Safe Communities Coalition, Preble County Safe Communities Coalition, and CareFlight Air and Mobile Services to raise awareness among area residents.

Premier Health also partners with the City of Dayton Fire Department to provide Community Paramedicine for patients in Dayton who have chronic illnesses or are at high risk for developing them. Educating patients about how to minimize the risk of suffering traumatic injuries at home is part of the program.

Notable **News**

Trauma Survivor Banquet

Five trauma survivors were honored at the 8th annual Trauma Survivor Banquet in October. They all share a special bond of overcoming tremendous odds in their journeys to recovery. Watch their personal video stories at **PremierHealth.com/TraumaStories**

Pictured standing left to right: Renae Eshleman, Travis Osborne, and Cathy Peters. Seated left to right: Chastity Rettig and Neesha Allen.

Trauma Designations

Following surveys by the American College of Surgeons, Miami Valley Hospital South, a Level III Trauma Center since 2019, achieved verification. Atrium Medical Center, Level III Trauma Center since 2004, earned reverification.

Burn Support Group

Miami Valley Hospital launched a Burn Support Group to offer hope and healing to individuals in post-burn recovery. The group is facilitated by burn center staff, with much of the support coming from former burn-injured individuals and their families. Monthly meetings are offered in person and virtually. Learn more at **PremierHealth.com/BurnSupport**

CareFlight at ECHO Conference

CareFlight Air and Mobile Services shared how to implement a whole blood program in a Health Emergency Medical Service program at the 2022 Every Coast Helicopters Operations (ECHO) Conference in Austin, Texas. CareFlight was the first air medical program in Ohio to carry two units of whole blood on each of their helicopters.

Reclaiming Life and Independence

Following Accident

Top right: Family gathers around Amit post-accident.

Bottom: Amit and his son, Bernard, visiting the Western Wall in Jerusalem 14 months after the accident. Amit walked the long downhill trek, no longer needing a wheelchair.

An afternoon ride on his jet ski changed – and almost ended – Amit Netanel's life. An experienced rider, Amit was enjoying the water and views at Caesar Creek Lake when what he thought was a wave turned out to be a log in the water. That he survived, said Amit and wife Deborah Netanel, was nothing short of a miracle.

"As soon as I realized that I am getting too close to it and it is not a wave, I yanked my hands out of the throttle and the engine stopped," he recalled. "I am holding on the handle, but gravity took over and lifted my legs above my head and I landed on the front of the jet ski."

He does not remember much for a time after that.

Other boaters on the lake, seeing the accident from afar, rushed to Amit while calling 911. Chester Township Fire Department met them at the dock. CareFlight was called to fly him to Miami Valley Hospital, where the Level I trauma team met him to perform a rapid and comprehensive evaluation.

"He was discovered to have multiple serious injuries after initial evaluation and multiple radiological studies. These included a bleed in his brain and cervical spine injuries," said Peter Ekeh, MD, director of trauma services at Miami Valley Hospital and the attending trauma physician when Amit arrived.

Once he was assessed and stabilized, he required consultation with multiple specialists, including neurosurgeon Daniel Gaudin, MD, and plastic/hand surgeon Sunishka Wimalawansa, MD.

"We are blessed to have a group of very talented specialists. The specialists worked closely and in concert with the trauma team to coordinate his in-hospital care," Dr. Ekeh said.

Amit's neurological and spinal injuries were significant, Dr. Gaudin said. "There were challenges. We were cautious. For him, there was maybe the chance to walk again," he said.

Dr. Gaudin worked closely with Amit and Deborah over months. "I pushed him for a goal every time. Amit worked really, really hard," he said, noting Deborah was always at his side. "We were pushing, pushing, pushing all the time."

Amit's progress offers inspiration for others, Dr. Gaudin said. "He is an example of if you push hard, I think you have more of a chance," he said.

Dr. Wimalawansa continues to work with Amit on the damage to his left arm and hand from a complex brachial plexus injury. This injury affected muscles from his shoulder to his hand, requiring multiple surgeries. "His surgeries involved strategies to improve the flow and function of the nerves to his affected muscles and sensory distributions, by taking pressure off pinched sites and borrowing small strands of expendable function nerves to rewire muscles that had otherwise been 'disconnected' from their connections to his spinal cord," Dr. Wimalawansa said.

The early days after the accident were grim. Amit was completely incapacitated by the spinal cord injury, and medical professionals could only offer guarded opinions about the future. The brachial plexus injury that paralyzed his left upper extremity was a source of unremitting pain.

"The process was very long and painful. My nerves ... every little feather touch drove me to the wall with pain," Amit said.

He was in the ICU for about two weeks, then the trauma unit for 10 days before a transfer to Drake Hospital in Cincinnati for three weeks of rehab.

Along the way professionals prepared Amit for a return to a home transformed for his accessibility and so family could better care for and support him. Neighbors, friends, and strangers reached out to help.

"Amit needed complete care from family around the clock. It was difficult to face the challenges with optimism. Amit felt a complete loss of personal independence. But we all knew that the only path to recovery was through a creative spirit towards the work that was needed," Deborah said.

Despite his injuries, Amit, an elementary school teacher, was determined to return to his classroom. In fall 2021, he did – only a few months after the accident.

"The accident was life threatening and life-changing not only for Amit, but for our whole family. However, Amit was very fortunate to receive excellent care. In particular, Dr. Gaudin and Dr. Wimalawansa are outstanding, both in terms of skill and expertise, and for the unparalleled compassion they show to their patients," Deborah said.

"Amit's personal determination and endless hours of hard work have enabled him to reclaim much of his life and independence," she said. "He returned to work, to driving, to traveling, and the powerchair is rarely needed any more. We are grateful for every day, and we hope his story will prove an inspiration to others."

A. Peter Ekeh, MD, MPH, FACS
Trauma Medical Director
Miami Valley Hospital
Vice Chair, Emergency and Trauma Institute

Daniel Gaudin, MD
Neurosurgeon
Miami Valley Hospital

Sunishka Wimalawansa, MD
Plastic and Hand Surgeon
Miami Valley Hospital

Amit and wife, Deborah

No Time Lost
on the Golf Course

Mark Grunkemeyer, 68, was on his typical 12 to 13-mile bicycle ride on a beautiful morning in late August when he suddenly found himself on top of his bike with a broken collarbone on the side of a curb.

"I was riding downhill on a sidewalk when I saw a young gentleman walking a dog in my direction," said Mark, a semi-retired owner of a local fertilizer and weed control company. "The dog was walking back and forth on his leash as I got closer to approaching the young man and dog. I tried to transition my bicycle from the sidewalk to the lawn to avoid the young gentleman and his dog. Unfortunately, that didn't go over so well."

That's when Mark lost control and went over the front of his bicycle. The dog walker immediately checked on Mark and dialed 911. Washington Township Fire Department and a sheriff's deputy arrived at the scene within minutes, and the EMS team asked Mark which hospital he would like to go. Mark directed them to Miami Valley Hospital South, based on his excellent patient experience with the hospital a few years earlier for hand surgery.

Miami Valley Hospital South is a Level III Trauma Center, meaning the hospital has demonstrated the ability to provide prompt assessment, resuscitation, surgery, intensive care, and stabilization of injured patients.

Once Mark was en route to the hospital, he called his wife of 46 years, Peggy, told her what had happened, and asked her to meet him at the emergency department. "My first thought was for my wife; she worries when I ride my bike," he said. "But as an avid golf player, my second thought was, 'Will I have to cancel my trip golf trip to Alabama?'"

Once Mark arrived at the emergency department, his blood pressure was very high: 180 over 110, potentially a result of being startled by the bike accident. Mark estimated his pain level to be between five and six on a scale of 10. Laura Gottron, MD, emergency medicine physician, evaluated his injuries, ordered an X-ray and CT scan, and confirmed that Mark had fractured his left collarbone while breaking five ribs.

Laura Gottron, MD
Emergency Medicine
Miami Valley Hospital South

Jennifer Jerele, MD
Chair, Orthopedics
Miami Valley Hospital

"Mark was a trooper. I offered him medication to subside the pain from the injury, but he declined," said Dr. Gottron. "Since I knew he had fractured his left clavicle, I immediately referred him to one of our orthopedic surgeons. One of the many benefits we provide to our emergency and trauma patients is highly coordinated care with an extensive network of surgical specialists, including vascular, cardiothoracic, neurosurgeons, plastic surgeons, microvascular hand surgeons, and additional specialty services."

Jennifer Jerele, MD, orthopedic surgeon, presented Mark with two options for his left collarbone.

"I asked Mark if he wanted to treat his left collarbone without surgery, which would require eight weeks of no lifting with his left arm, or proceed with surgery to fix his collarbone with a plate and screws," said Dr. Jerele.

"Okay, we've got a small problem," Mark recalled telling her. "I have a golf trip planned in six weeks, and I need to be swinging a golf club in five weeks."

Dr. Jerele responded, "Oh my goodness, I'm a golf addict, and so is my husband. One of the physical therapy activities you'll be able to do in four weeks is chipping and putting."

"Well, then we have a plan," said Mark.

Dr. Jerele performed an outpatient surgery on his left collarbone, installing a plate and nine screws across his collarbone to hold it together. Four weeks after his surgery, Mark resumed playing golf.

No matter the traumatic injury, Premier Health emergency and trauma centers are equipped to handle a variety of traumatic injuries through a well-coordinated continuum of care. Premier Health's trauma teams are in a constant state of readiness, with fully equipped operating rooms and staffed 24/7.

Mark and wife, Peggy

It's All About **the Patients**

Throughout her extensive career, Candy Skidmore's focus has always been patient-centered.

Candy Skidmore, RN, CHEP
Vice President
Emergency and Trauma Service Lines
Premier Health

If you want to know what it takes to work in emergency and trauma, just ask Candy Skidmore.

For more than 41 years, Candy has worked to provide the best possible care for emergency and trauma patients in this region. She started as an emergency room and ICU nurse; in 1981, she began her tenure with what is now Premier Health as a staff nurse on the cardiac floor at Miami Valley Hospital. Soon after, discussions began about developing a helicopter program.

"It seemed like a natural progression for me to join the CareFlight program," Candy said. She applied for a position as a flight nurse and began training in August 1983. "I was a flight nurse for a very long time, then an educator for the program, chief flight nurse, program manager in 1987, and then program director."

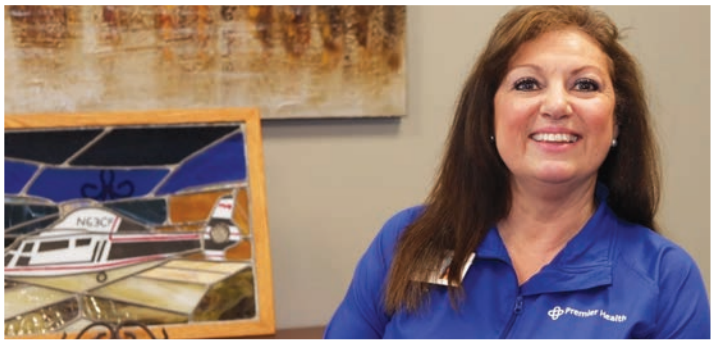
Under Candy's direction, CareFlight continued to grow and change, adding multiple helicopters, a mobile intensive care unit, and extending its range to a 150-mile radius. She later became a director in disaster management and was asked to develop an access center for Miami Valley Hospital – the precursor to today's Regional Referral Center, which has served all Premier Health hospitals for bed management, placement, and transportation since 2019.

"It's the NASA hub of everything that goes on in the organization," Candy said.

Her reputation preceding her, Candy was asked to assist with the development of Miami Valley South in 2007, technically Premier Health's first free-standing emergency center. It later became Miami Valley Hospital South. Following that success, she was instrumental in the opening of subsequent emergency centers in Englewood, Jamestown, Miamisburg, and Beavercreek.

In 2012, Candy became Premier Health's vice president of emergency and trauma services, and an administrator for CareFlight. "One of my goals was to develop an EMS center of excellence, which we have today," she said.

"Candy is a quintessential leader. She is a national expert in the aeromedical program, transfer center, and emergency and trauma service operations," said Jennifer Hauler, DO, chief operating officer for Miami Valley Hospital. "Her legacy will live on in the leaders she has developed, the knowledge she has shared, and the



programs that she has created. Premier Health is a better place because of her, and it has been a true honor to work with and know her."

It would seem impossible to narrow down such an expansive career to its most rewarding aspect, but for Candy, it's all about taking care of patients. "That's the key to everything," she said. "Why do we put up emergency centers, have helicopter services, acquire new equipment? It's all so we can take care of patients. You see that in patients who come back and tell you, or their outcomes. We're making an impact on lives and communities. That's the most rewarding thing."

While patients are at the top of the list, another rewarding aspect of Candy's career is the significant integration of the team. "Our doctors, surgeons, hospitals, nurses ... we all pull together," she said. "It's very rewarding to be in meetings with our partners and the focus is always 'Is this going to help care in the community?'"

Jeremy Moore, MD, medical director of emergency services at Miami Valley Hospital North and chair of the Premier Health Emergency and Trauma Institute, says that Candy leads by example and has never wavered from a patient-centered approach to leadership. "Literally millions of patients have benefited from Candy's strong commitment to fairness and accountability. We truly consider her a 'living legend.' With the standards she has set, we have some big shoes to fill!"

With her retirement in January, Candy admitted that it would be a huge change, but she plans to stay active in the industry. "I'll probably continue to work in accreditation surveys for helicopter programs, and project assistance where needed," she said.

On a personal level, she plans to stay local. "We love Dayton. I'm married, have two kids, and one grandchild, so I'll have an opportunity to spend more time with them," Candy said. "We like to travel, and we'll have some downtime to just enjoy each other's company. I'm looking forward to it." She also plans on staying in touch with coworkers who are friends outside of work, too.

"I'm vested. It's been a lot of years and a lot of time building a lot of things and partnering with others to see them grow," Candy said. "My goal is a great transition."

"Literally millions of patients have benefited from Candy's strong commitment to fairness and accountability. We truly consider her a 'living legend.'"

– Dr. Moore

Premier Health's Massive Transfusion Protocol Committee Helps Us Meet Patients' Needs and Conserves Our Communities' Blood Resources

Left to right standing: *Beth Larsen, Trauma Program Manager, MVHS; Cristi Clark, Trauma Quality Coordinator, MVH; Michele Schaaf, ED Associate Nurse Manager, MVH; Cary Mohr, Perinatal Safety Manager, MVH*

Left to right sitting: *Teresa Pleasant, Blood Transfusion Services Manager, MVH; Ann Monnig, Trauma Program Manager, MVH; Rebecca Baker, System Director Transfusion Services; Claire Cox, Trauma Program Manager, Atrium*

Committee members not pictured:
Greg Semon, DO, Trauma Surgeon, MVH; Daniel Hood, MD, Medical Director, Blood Transfusion Services, MVH; James Alexander, MD, Medical Director Community Blood Center; Meredith Sanders, MD, Anesthesia, MVH; Wendy Bishop, Educator, Medical Surgical Intensive Care, MVH; Lynn Zack, Team Lead, OR, MVH; Dana Zack, Flight Nurse, CareFlight; Alyssa Gans, MD, Trauma Medical Director, MVHS; Pradeesh George, DO, Trauma Medical Director, UVMC; Claire Wirrig, Trauma Program Manager, UVMC; Ashley Heitbrink, Trauma Quality Coordinator, UVMC; Cate Hoesl, System Director, Hematology

A community's blood supply is a precious resource. This fact is especially known by anyone who has received a lifesaving blood transfusion. When a patient in one of our Premier Health hospitals suddenly needs a large transfusion of blood, we follow a process called Massive Transfer Protocol, or MTP. This process ensures we are best meeting the needs of our patient in those crucial moments, while also using our blood supply most effectively and efficiently.

In 2014, Premier Health formed its first of our three MTP Committees, to meet regularly to review recent MTPs in our hospitals. These committees have representatives from our Premier Health Trauma Teams, emergency departments, operating rooms, ICUs, Blood Transfusion Services, and the Community Blood Center, our local blood bank in Dayton.

"Meeting monthly to review all recent MTP cases ensures we are using our blood resources appropriately. The committee also reviews and utilizes current research so that the MTP process is evidence-based. These learnings help guide physicians during a critical time in a patient's treatment," said Ann Monnig, manager of the Trauma Program at Miami Valley Hospital, and one of the founding members of Miami Valley Hospital's MTP Committee.

The next time you roll up your sleeve to donate blood, please remember that our Premier Health MTP Committees are working to ensure your donation helps our patients who need it most.

Rib and Sternal Fracture Treatment Efforts Recognized

Miami Valley Hospital is a leader in treating rib and sternal fractures. Traditionally, treatment includes pain control and pulmonary support. In 2016, the first rib plating surgery at Miami Valley Hospital was performed by Greg Semon, DO, trauma surgeon at Miami Valley Hospital and associate professor of surgery at Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine. Today, three additional surgeons can perform the surgery. Miami Valley Hospital also hosts educational labs and contributes to rib plating research.

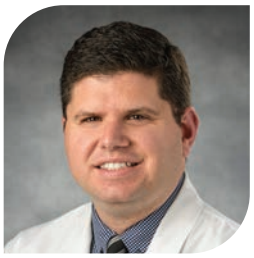
These efforts were recognized in 2022 as Miami Valley Hospital, in collaboration with Wright State Physicians and Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine, was named a Chest Wall Injury Collaborative Center in 2022 by the Chest Wall Injury Society (CWIS). Miami Valley Hospital is the 20th hospital in the world to receive this designation. As a Chest Wall Injury Collaborative Center, Miami Valley Hospital's Level I Trauma Center provides comprehensive pain management, respiratory therapy, and rib plating surgery for patients with fractures and those experiencing chronic chest wall pain.

The Chest Wall Injury Society is an international group of rib fracture experts whose mission is to optimize the operative and non-operative care of patients with chest wall injuries. The designation is awarded to programs active in CWIS that have high-volume rib fixation, contribute to the Chest Wall Injury Database (CIID), and are involved with multicenter research trials.

Severe rib fractures are typically caused by car or motorcycle crashes, falls, assaults, or other blunt injuries. Long-term consequences may include chronic pain, chest deformity, and decreased lung function if left untreated. Rib plating, a reconstructive surgery, significantly reduces pain, allowing patients to reduce their pain medications, and shortens the need for hospitalization. The operation is performed by placing the patient under general anesthesia and making incisions over the broken ribs. Titanium plates and screws are then inserted to stabilize the broken ribs, which reduces pain as well as the deformity of the ribcage as the ribs heal.

"We have helped hundreds of patients – not only those who need immediate rib plating surgery, but also those experiencing chronic chest wall pain months or years later," explains Dr. Semon. "Our designation as a Chest Wall Injury Collaborative Center is a testament to our commitment to excellent care."

This achievement highlights Premier Health's Level I trauma services and recognizes our commitment to high-quality care of patients with rib and sternal fractures.



Greg Semon, DO
Trauma Surgeon
Miami Valley Hospital

Individuals can make an appointment for an evaluation by calling Wright State Physicians at **(937) 245-7200** or Miami Valley Hospital's Trauma Clinic at **(937) 208-6268**.

CWIS COLLABORATIVE CENTER

Recognizing
Truly Exceptional Care

Alyssa Gans, MD, FACS
Trauma Medical Director
Miami Valley Hospital South

Pradeesh George, DO, FACS
Trauma Medical Director
Upper Valley Medical Center

The Premier Health Trauma Recognition Program acknowledges truly exceptional care, said Pradeesh George, MD, an initiator of the award program along with Alyssa Gans, MD.

"The trauma department award, which is a two-piece set that includes a challenge coin and lapel pin, must be earned," said Dr. George, trauma medical director at Upper Valley Medical Center. "A person must go the extra mile and then some. It is meant to honor an individual that makes a difference for the patient and for the team."

It takes an entire team working together, both from outside and inside of the trauma center, to appropriately respond to a myriad of emergency situations and to ultimately save lives. The trauma team includes first responders and emergency medical technicians, paramedics, triage nurses, emergency nurses, environmental services, radiology technicians, respiratory therapists, emergency physicians, advanced practice providers, trauma surgeons, and others. Every team member is eligible to earn this commendation.

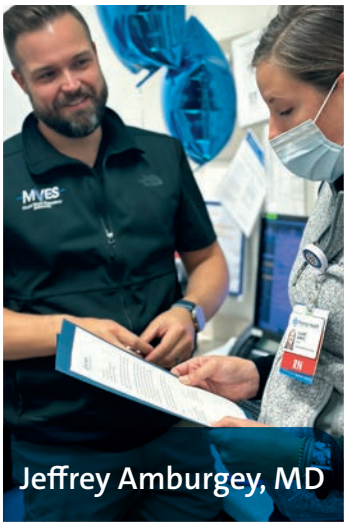
"It is rewarding to be acknowledged for a job well done, and it is important to have a way to show a team member that his or her hard work and contribution is noticed," said Dr. Gans, trauma medical director at Miami Valley Hospital South.

When Dr. George and Dr. Gans joined Premier Health, they both had come from facilities with similar recognition programs and wanted to implement a program that was inspirational and that would make trauma team members feel good about their actions.

The bar has been set high to receive a trauma recognition award. Winners are decided by the facility's trauma medical director and the trauma program manager.

"Whether it is at our Level I trauma center at Miami Valley Hospital or at the Level III trauma centers at Atrium Medical Center, Miami Valley Hospital South and Upper Valley Medical Center, we are successful because we work together," said Dr. Gans. "We have a common goal: to provide exceptional care for every patient. The recognition program highlights individuals who help us succeed."

Kettering Regional SWAT Team



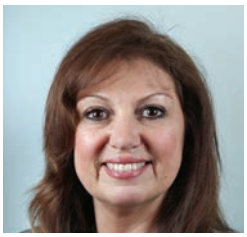
Jeffrey Amburgey, MD

Monroe Fire

Washington Township Fire

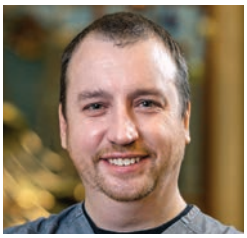
Trauma **Teams**

Our trauma teams, led by the Premier Health Emergency and Trauma Institute, provide well-coordinated care for critically injured and sick patients in Southwest Ohio.



Candy Skidmore, RN, CHEP
Vice President
Emergency and Trauma Service Lines
Premier Health

Christian Lawson, MBA, BSN, RN
Vice President
Emergency and Trauma Service Lines
Premier Health (Began 3/6/23)

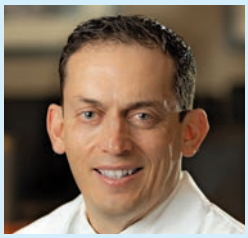


Jeremy Moore, MD
Chair
Emergency and Trauma Institute
Premier Health

LEVEL I TRAUMA CENTER

Miami Valley Hospital

A. Peter Ekeh, MD, MPH, FACS
Trauma Medical Director
Vice Chair, Emergency and Trauma Institute



John Bruun, MD
Associate Trauma Medical Director

Ann Monnig, MSN, RN
Trauma Program Manager

Lyndsey Ross, MSN, RN
Trauma Outreach Coordinator

Charles "CJ" Briggerman, Jr., AT
Program Manager
Injury Prevention Center

Deb Huffman, AAS-HS, CSTR
Trauma Registry Coordinator
Data Analyst

Cristi Clark, MSN, MAT, RN
Trauma Performance Improvement Coordinator

Kimberly Weisenberger, BSN, RN
Trauma Performance Improvement Coordinator

Corena Deeter, CSTR
Certified Trauma Registrar

Julie Miller, CSTR
Certified Trauma Registrar

Rhonda Pierce, CSTR
Certified Trauma Registrar

Sharon Sherer, CSTR
Certified Trauma Registrar

Patrice Harrell
Trauma Administrative Assistant

LEVEL III TRAUMA CENTERS

Atrium Medical Center

Heather Adkins, MD, FACS
Trauma Medical Director

Claire Hardman-Cox, MPH, BSN, RN
Trauma Program Manager

Ann Brock, BSN, RN
Trauma Outreach Coordinator

Keriann Wyckoff, BSN, RN
Trauma Quality Improvement Coordinator

Alysia Lazear, AAB, CSTR
Certified Trauma Registrar
Data Analyst

Miami Valley Hospital South

Alyssa Gans, MD, FACS
Trauma Medical Director

Beth Larsen, MSN, RN
Trauma Program Manager

Brittany Kremer, BSN, RN
Trauma Quality Management Coordinator
Trauma Registrar

Upper Valley Medical Center

Pradeesh George, DO, FACS
Trauma Medical Director

Claire Wirrig, BSN, RN
Trauma Program Manager

Ashley Heitbrink, BSN, RN
Trauma Quality Improvement Coordinator

Debbie Miller, CSTR
Certified Trauma Registrar

Premier Health

MIAMI VALLEY HOSPITAL

CAREFLIGHT

AIR AND MOBILE SERVICES

40 YEARS

EST. 1983

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AirMethods

CareFlight Air and Mobile Services completed its first patient transport from St. Marys, Ohio in 1983 – the official start of lifesaving, critical-care transport in the Miami Valley.

Today, CareFlight is the fastest fleet in the region, transporting and caring for more than 78,000 patients since that first flight.

Celebrate with Us

WE WANT TO HEAR HOW CAREFLIGHT HAS TOUCHED YOUR LIFE.

Help us celebrate this milestone by sharing your story – it could end up being part of our official 40th anniversary recognition!

SUBMIT YOUR STORY

SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT
PremierHealth.com/CareFlight40

Premier Health

PremierHealth.com/Trauma

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