I. Title
Determining Hospital and Emergency Department Saturation Status

II. Policy
As a result of the Emergency Treatment and Active Labor Act (EMTALA) regulations, determining the capacity and the operational status of the UTMB Emergency Department (“ED”) and UTMB Hospital are extremely important. Determinations regarding capacity and operational status are an on-going responsibility assigned to UTMB’s Health System Administration, the Emergency Department Nursing Leadership and the Emergency Department/Trauma Service Physician Leadership.

III. Determining Bed Capacity and Facility Saturation Status
The Patient Placement Center (PPC) coordinates with the Clinical Operations Administrator (COA) or equivalent who will monitor personnel, resource, and bed availability. If it is determined that the conditions described below are met, Health System Administration On Call, the Emergency Department Nursing Leadership, and the Emergency Department/Trauma Service Physician Leadership will evaluate all data and make the final determination that UTMB will be placed on the saturation status applicable to the circumstances existing in the facility. If UTMB is on saturation status, transfers may not be accepted for services that are on saturation status, due to a lack of capacity and/or capability to care for the patient. This status will be updated and documented in EMResource and re-evaluated every 4 hours. Note: EMTALA does not require UTMB to accept inpatient-to-inpatient transfers, but inpatient transfers may be accepted on a case-by-case basis.

IV. Termination of Saturation Status
If it is determined that the conditions prompting saturation status have resolved, the Health System Administrator On Call, the Emergency Department Nursing Leadership, and the Emergency Department/Trauma Service Physician Leadership will evaluate all available data and make the final determination that UTMB will cease to be on saturation status.

V. Conditions for Consideration of Saturation
A. Trauma Saturation:
   • Two Trauma patients requiring emergency surgery and no operating rooms available; or
   • Two critically injured (intubated) Trauma patients in the Trauma bays and no ICU beds available; or
   • The number of patients exceeds personnel available to provide care and no beds available.
B. Medical Saturation:
   • Two or more Medical ICU patients awaiting beds; or
   • The number of patients exceeds personnel available to provide
VI. Relevant Federal and State Statutes
Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act [EMTALA]—42 USC Sec. 1395dd

State Operations Manual Appendix V – Interpretive Guidelines – Responsibilities of Medicare Participating Hospitals in Emergency Cases (Rev. 60, 07-16-10)

VII. Related UTMB Policies and Procedures
IHOP Policy 9.1.12 Interfacility Transfer of Patients from UTMB
IHOP Policy 9.1.16 Admission of Interfacility Transfer Patients
IHOP Policy 9.1.21 Examination and Treatment for Emergency Medical Conditions and Women in Labor

VIII. Dates Approved or Amended

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Originated: 09/02/2010</th>
<th>Reviewed with Changes</th>
<th>Reviewed without Changes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>05/03/2012</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08/04/2015</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

IX. Contact Information
Emergency Services – Administration
(409) 772-9067