

DENVER CMC MOUNTAIN LEADERS EVACUATION GUIDELINE

This guide focuses on the five most important factors during a wilderness medical emergency

INSTRUCTIONS

- Five major factors are listed below
- Under each factor, SELECT THE NUMBER that best describes the condition
- TOTAL the combined value of the five selected numbers
- COMPARE the Total Score with CONSIDERED ACTION in last paragraph, below

NOTE: Some injuries do not need assessment but clearly require evacuation: unconscious patient, compound fracture, head injury, great loss of blood, shock, multiple injured parties.

FACTOR - Weather and Outlook (select one number)

1. Good – not impending or degrading
2. Fair < 50% probability of degrading conditions (may complicate return to trail head)
3. Poor > 50% probability of degrading conditions (will definitely complicate the return)
4. Bad – degrading conditions (complicates return trip dramatically)

FACTOR - Distance to the trailhead. This is distance needed to walk out...steepness/elevation change considered later. (select one number)

1. < 1 mile /
2. > 1 mile /
3. > 2 miles /
4. > 4 miles

FACTOR - Difficulty. . .ruggedness, steepness of the return trail. Use the 1-4 class system or the CMC trip classification system. (select one number)

1. Class 1 or A Hike /
2. Class 2 or B Hike /
3. Class 3 or C Hike /
4. Class 4 or D Hike

FACTOR - Abilities of group. . .Mental, Physical, Emotional -- A situational assessment of attitude, skills, fitness, resourcefulness of team. (select one number)

1. Skilled, Strong and fresh, very capable /
2. Skilled, Fresh - not as strong, mix of capabilities
3. Mix of skill levels, some tired, mix of capabilities /
4. Mix of skill levels, tired, low capabilities

FACTOR - Ambulatory ability of injured person(s). More than just aiding, considers speed, energy of individuals. (select one number)

1. Patient can move under own power /
2. Patient needs occasional help to move /
3. Patient needs help to move /
4. Patient needs to be carried

CONSIDERED ACTION: Add the selected numbers from the five factors - should be a number from 5-20. If number injured is >1 then double this score: Total Score: _____

- 5 - 9 – No evacuation, continue to trailhead
- 10-12 – No evacuation, request medical assistance to meet at trailhead
- 13-16 – Call for evacuation, wait for assistance
- 17-20 – Call for evacuation, may have to Bivy, even wait overnight for rescue