



TRAUMA TRIAGE ALGORITHM: BLUNT OR PENETRATING INJURY

ABNORMAL VITAL SIGNS
 Any one of:
 1. Failure to follow commands (motor GCS < 6)
 2. Respiratory rate < 10 or > 29 per min
 Room air P.O. < 90%
 Respiratory distress or need for respiratory support
 3. Systolic BP: Age 0-9: SBP < 70 mmHg + (2 X age in years)
 Age 10-64 years: SBP < 90 mmHg
 Age ≥ 65 years: SBP < 110 mmHg
 4. Heart rate: Age ≥ 10 years, heart rate > SBP

Base Contact;
 Meets Trauma Triage
 Criteria

INJURY IS SIGNIFICANT

- Penetrating or open injury of the head / Depressed skull fracture
- Blunt or penetrating head injury with observed loss of consciousness, focal neurologic deficit, asymmetric pupils, or vomiting
- Penetrating (appears to penetrate all skin layers) injury to the neck, chest, abdomen, back, groin, extremity above elbow or knee
- Extremity injury with poor circulation or without a pulse
- Suspected spinal injury with new motor or sensory loss
- Blunt chest injury with abnormal respiration as defined above
- Seat belt bruising or abrasion of neck, chest or abdomen
- Blunt abdominal/flank injury with palpable tenderness
- Fracture of two or more long-bones (femur, humerus)
- Pelvic rim pain or deformity on palpation
- Amputation (partial or complete) above the wrist or ankle
- Crushed, degloved, or mangled extremity (excluding only fingers or toes)
- Pregnant woman with blunt or penetrating abdominal injury
- Active bleeding requiring a tourniquet or wound packing with continuous pressure
- Blunt head injury with bruising in area of injury and known to be taking anticoagulants or platelet inhibitors ("blood thinners") excluding aspirin; or known to have hemophilia or be a dialysis patient

Base Contact;
 Meets Trauma Triage
 Criteria

MECHANISM OF INJURY

- Falls:
 - Adult/Adolescent: Greater than 10 feet
 - Children: Greater than 10 feet or 2-3 times the height of the child
 - Adult/Adolescent/Child: Fall from a galloping horse
- High-Risk Auto Crash
 - Passenger space intrusion greater than 12 inches where an occupant is sitting or any occupant in a passenger seat when there is greater than 18 inches intrusion at any site within the passenger space.
 - Ejection (partial or complete) from automobile.
 - Passenger requiring extrication
 - Passenger age 0-9 years who is unrestrained
 - Passenger in vehicle in which a trauma death has occurred.
- Diving and shore break injuries with suspected spinal cord injury
- Hanging
- Auto vs. Pedestrian / Bicyclist who is thrown any distance, run-over, or with significant (greater than 20 mph) impact
- Unenclosed motorized vehicle crash greater than 20 mph

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