

	Department Name Address	ILS	EMT/Intermediate
		Revision #	
		Implementation Date	
Protocol	3.1.36 Head Injuries - Adult	Last Reviewed/Update Date	
Author / Owner		Medical Director	

If history, symptoms, or signs of head injuries are present, suspect a spinal injury and manually immobilize the head and neck while maintaining a patent airway using a modified jaw thrust. Take full spinal immobilization precautions following initial stabilization.

1. Baseline care standards.
2. Use appropriate spinal immobilization procedures.
3. Administer oxygen at 15L per minute via non-rebreather mask.
4. Maintain airway per protocol.
5. Transport to trauma center as soon as possible. Call for ALS and/or helicopter intercept.
6. While en route, establish two large bore IV's of Normal Saline. Rate will be TKO if Blood Pressure (BP) is 90 mmHg or greater. If BP is less than 90 mmHg, administer fluid boluses until BP is 90mmHg.
7. Hyperventilate if the following symptoms are found:
 - GCS < 9
 - SPO2 < 90%
 - Persistent seizures
 - Pupils non-reactive, asymmetric, or dilated.
8. Open wounds which expose the brain tissue should be covered with saline-soaked gauze.
9. If patient is combative, check airway to ensure adequate ventilation and respiration. Physically restrain as needed per protocol.
10. Re-evaluate GCS, level of consciousness, and circulatory, motor, and sensory status frequently.

Medical Director's Signature

Date

Disclaimer:

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