

	Department Name Address	BLS	EMT
		Revision #	
		Implementation Date	
Protocol	4.1.36 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. Hyperventilate if the following symptoms are found:
 - GCS < 9
 - SPO2 < 90%
 - Persistent seizures
 - Pupils non-reactive, asymmetric, or dilated.
7. Open wounds which expose the brain tissue should be covered with saline-soaked gauze.
8. If patient is combative, check airway to ensure adequate ventilation and respiration. Physically restrain as needed per protocol.
9. Re-evaluate GCS, level of consciousness, and circulatory, motor and sensory status frequently.

Medical Director's Signature

Date

Disclaimer:

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