C-Collar in Place
Small children need shoulder
Padding for neutral positioning

Mechanism of injury considered, high risk for cervical spine injury,
And/or presence of neck pain
And/or evidence of intoxication
And/or abnormal level of consciousness
And/or abnormal neurological exam
And/or painful distracting injury

Evidence of CSI
Consult Neurosurgery &
Maintain C-Spine Precautions

Plain Films or CT of Cervical Spine

1. C-Spine Tenderness
Flex/Ex films
Consider MRI if non-cooperative or unable to perform active ROM

2. Intoxication
Attempt to clear c-spine clinically when no longer intoxicated

3. Altered LOC
Consider clinical clearance or MRI

4. Altered Neuro Exam
MRI as soon as possible & consult Neurosurgery

5. Painful Distracting Injury
Stabilize and control pain of injuries & attempt to clear clinically

ADULT Practice Management Guideline
Effective: 06/2014
Contact: Trauma Center Medical Director
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