Blunt Trauma Imaging Worksheet

Adult (age≥16)

**Trauma Head CT** – Suspicion of head injury AND any one of the following are present:
- Taking warfarin, anti-platelet agents other than aspirin, DOACs
- GCS < 15 on arrival
- Suspected open or depressed skull fx
- Any sign of basilar skull fx (hemotympanum, raccoon eyes, Battle’s sign, oto- or rhinorrhea)
- >2 episodes of vomiting
- Age > 65
- Retrograde amnesia > 30 mins
- Dangerous mechanism (ped struck, ejection, fall > 3 ft or 5 stairs)

**Trauma Face CT** – Most fractures will be detected on head CT
- Physical exam is suggestive of unstable midface fracture
- Physical exam is suggestive of mandible fracture

**CT Angio - Neck** – Order if any one of the following are present:
- Neurologic abnormality not explained by diagnosed injury
- Arterial epistaxis
- Seat belt sign on neck
- Petrous bone fracture
- C-spine fracture (C1-C3) or subluxation at any level
- Fracture through foramen transversum or basilar skull fracture
- LeFort II or III fractures

**Trauma Chest CT** – Order only for evaluation of the thoracic aorta. Not for primary evaluation of hemothorax, pneumothorax, or rib fractures. Suspect aortic injury if sufficient mechanism and:
- Wide mediastinum
- Sternal fracture
- First rib fracture
- High velocity crash
- Age > 50
- Hypotensive episode
- Torso crush injury

**Trauma Abd/Pelvis CT** – Not for primary imaging of the lumbar spine. Image if any of the following are present:
- Abnormal abdominal, pelvic or lumbar spine exam
- Positive FAST
- Intubated patient
- GCS < 11
- Intoxicated patient with suspicion of abdominal injury
C-Spine - Image if any of the following are present, or unable to clinically clear:
- Age ≥ 65
- Paresthesias in extremities
- Fall > 3 ft or 5 stairs
- Axial load to head (e.g. diving)
- High speed MVC (> 60mph)
- Rollover
- Ejection
- ATV, motorized bike, motorcycle
- Known thoracic or lumbar fracture

T-Spine - Image if any of the following are present:
- Spinal or paraspinous pain or tenderness
- Spinal deformity
- Known acute cervical or lumbar fracture
- High risk mechanism (see C-spine criteria)
- Unconscious or intoxicated
- Distracting injury

L-Spine - Image if any of the following are present:
- Spinal or paraspinous pain or tenderness
- Spinal deformity
- Known acute cervical or thoracic spine fracture
- High risk mechanism (see C-spine criteria)
- Unconscious or intoxicated
- Distracting injury

Chest CT Ordered?
Body habitus unfavorable?
Neither of the above

Reformat Chest CT
Dedicated T-Spine CT
AP / Lateral T-Spine

Chest CT or Abd/Pelvis CT Ordered?
Body habitus unfavorable?
Neither of the above

Reformat Abd/Pelvis CT
Dedicated L-Spine CT
AP / Lateral L-Spine