

ACUTE MANAGEMENT OF HEAD INJURY IN CHILDREN

Rural Hospital

Name _____

MRN _____

GCS 15 MINOR	GCS 14/15 LOW RISK	GCS 14/15 with risk factors INTERMEDIATE RISK	GCS 10-13 HIGH RISK	GCS 9 or less SEVERE
Can include children with scalp bruise or abrasions	Rapid return of normal cerebral function	Persistent drowsiness, lethargy, irritability, headache or behaviour change	Resuscitate, Transfer to higher level care facility for CT Brain	Resuscitate Trauma Call CT Brain/Transfer NETS HOTLINE 1300 362 500
No LOC	LOC 1 minute or less	Suspected skull fracture (boggy heamatoma) or Penetrating injury LOC > 1 minute	PAEDIATRIC GLASGOW COMA SCALE Eye opening E Nil 1 To pain 2 To voice 3 Spontaneous 4 _____ Verbal response V Nil 1 Groans 2 Some words, inappropriate/mumbled 3 Confused but recognisable speech 4 Appropriate conversation 5 _____ Movement/motor response M Flaccid paralysis 1 Extensor/decerebrate response to pain 2 Flexor/decorticate response to pain 3 Withdraws to pain 4 Localises pain 5 Obeys commands 6 Total = E + V + M = 3 to 15 SCORE _____	
Vomiting once or less	Vomiting more than once	Seizure > 1 hour post injury		
Normal Neuro exam	Mild headache or lethargy	Localising signs		
No evidence of skull fracture	Seizure < 1 hour post injury	< 2 years old regardless of signs & symptoms		
INDICATIONS FOR CT SCAN All with GCS ≤ 13 ALL with GCS not returning to 15 within 2 hours Suspected Skull # Penetrating Injury High risk mechanism/bleeding disorder		Multi-trauma with head injury, unwitnessed LOC, suspected C/S injury, bleeding diathesis, underlying neurological disorder		

Triage nurse: RISK SCORE Minor Low Risk Intermediate Risk
 Signed: _____

Doctor: RISK SCORE Minor Low Risk Intermediate Risk
 Signed: _____

MANAGEMENT

MINOR	LOW RISK	INTERMEDIATE RISK	AVPU SCORE																								
Can be discharged home Head injury information/ Parent Fact Sheet Follow up instructions	Minimum 4 hours Neuro Obs If stable discharge, IF NOT Transfer to higher level care facility Head Injury Information/ Parent Fact Sheet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transfer to higher level care facility and Admit for observation CT Brain 	Alert Responds to V oice only Responds to P ain only Unresponsive SCORE _____ <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Age (yrs)</th> <th>BP (systolic)</th> <th>HR (/min)</th> <th>RR (/min)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><1</td> <td>70-90</td> <td>110-160</td> <td>30-40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 - 2</td> <td>80-95</td> <td>100-150</td> <td>25-35</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2 - 5</td> <td>80-100</td> <td>95-140</td> <td>25-30</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5 - 12</td> <td>90-110</td> <td>80-120</td> <td>20-25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>> 12</td> <td>100-120</td> <td>60-100</td> <td>15-20</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Age (yrs)	BP (systolic)	HR (/min)	RR (/min)	<1	70-90	110-160	30-40	1 - 2	80-95	100-150	25-35	2 - 5	80-100	95-140	25-30	5 - 12	90-110	80-120	20-25	> 12	100-120	60-100	15-20
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