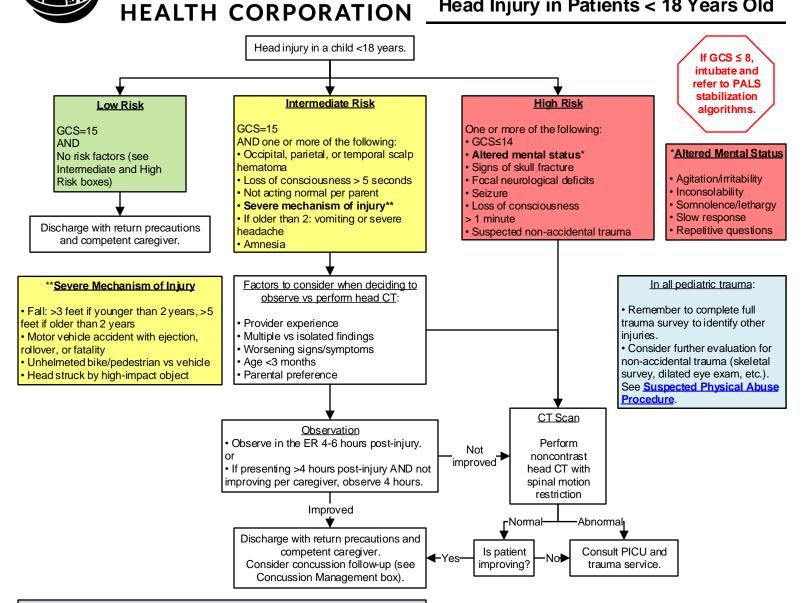
**Return to Table of Contents** Yukon-Kuskokwim

## Clinical Guideline

# **Head Injury in Patients < 18 Years Old**



#### Village Management

- If Low Risk: Discharge with competent caregiver with clear return precautions. Do not send to Bethel unless otherwise indicated.
- If Intermediate Risk: Consider medevac vs observation with Q1h VS and neuro checks. If any worsening or no improvement over 4 hours, activate medevac.
- If High Risk: Activate medevac.

Plain films of the skull are not recommended.

#### Concussion Management

- Complete <u>Acute Concussion Evaluation</u> at every visit.
- Follow-up in outpatient clinic in 1-2 weeks.
- Consider Sport Concussion Assessment Tool (SCAT) at follow-up.
- Consider balance testing.
- Avoid medications that can worsen somnolence.
- If symptoms persist >3-4 weeks, consider referral to neurologist, psychologist, physical therapy, etc.
- Return to school per <u>CDC Heads Up Protocol</u>.
- Return to play per ASAA Guidelines.

This guideline is designed for the general use of most patients but may need to be adapted to meet the special needs of a specific patient as determined by the medical practitioner. Approved by Clinical Guideline Committee 5/15/23.

Click here to see the supplemental resources for this guideline.

If comments about this guideline, please contact Clinical\_Guidelines@ykhc.org.

#### C-spine Injury

Please see the YKHC Spinal Cord Injury Management guideline for pediatric C-spine resources.

### Pediatric Glasgow Coma Scale (GCS)

Eye opening	Infant Spontaneous To speech To pain No response	Child Spontaneous To speech To pain No response	4 3 2 1
Best verbal response	Coos, babbles Irritable cry Cries to pain Moans to pain No response	Orientated, appropriate Confused Inappropriate words Incomprehensible sounds No response	5 4 3 2 1
Best motor response	Moves spontaneously Withdraws to touch Withdraws to pain Flexion to pain Extension to pain	Obeys commands Localizes painful stimulus Withdraws to pain Flexion to pain Extension to pain No response	6 5 4 3 2