

Geriatric Early Trauma Activation Guidelines

A geriatric trauma victim is a person ≥ 65 years of age, exhibiting one of more of the following:

Physiologic Criteria:

- a. **GCS score ≤ 13 with a known or suspected traumatic head/brain injury** (defined as an indication that the brain has suffered an injury caused by an external force) including, but not limited to:
 - i. Decrease in level of consciousness
 - ii. Unequal pupils
 - iii. Blurred vision
 - iv. Severe or persistent headache
 - v. Nausea or vomiting
 - vi. Change in neurological status
- b. **Systolic BP < 110 mmHg** or absent radial pulse with carotid pulse present

Anatomic Criteria:

- c. Known or suspected **proximal long bone fracture sustained in a motor vehicle crash**
- d. **Multiple body regions injured**

Mechanism of Injury Criteria:

- e. **Fall from any height**, including standing falls, **WITH evidence of traumatic head/brain injury** (see above)
- f. **Pedestrian struck by motor vehicle**

Special Considerations:

- g. **Anticoagulation agents**
- h. **Co-morbidities:** diabetes, cardiac disease (CHF/HTN/arrhythmias), pulmonary disease (COPD), clotting disorder, immunosuppressive disorder or required dialysis

MAINTAIN A HIGH INDEX OF SUSPICION FOR INJURY AND PROMPTLY CONSIDER THE NEED TO TRANSFER TO A HIGHER LEVEL OF CARE



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