



Pediatric Cervical Spine Clearance Algorithm Job Aid

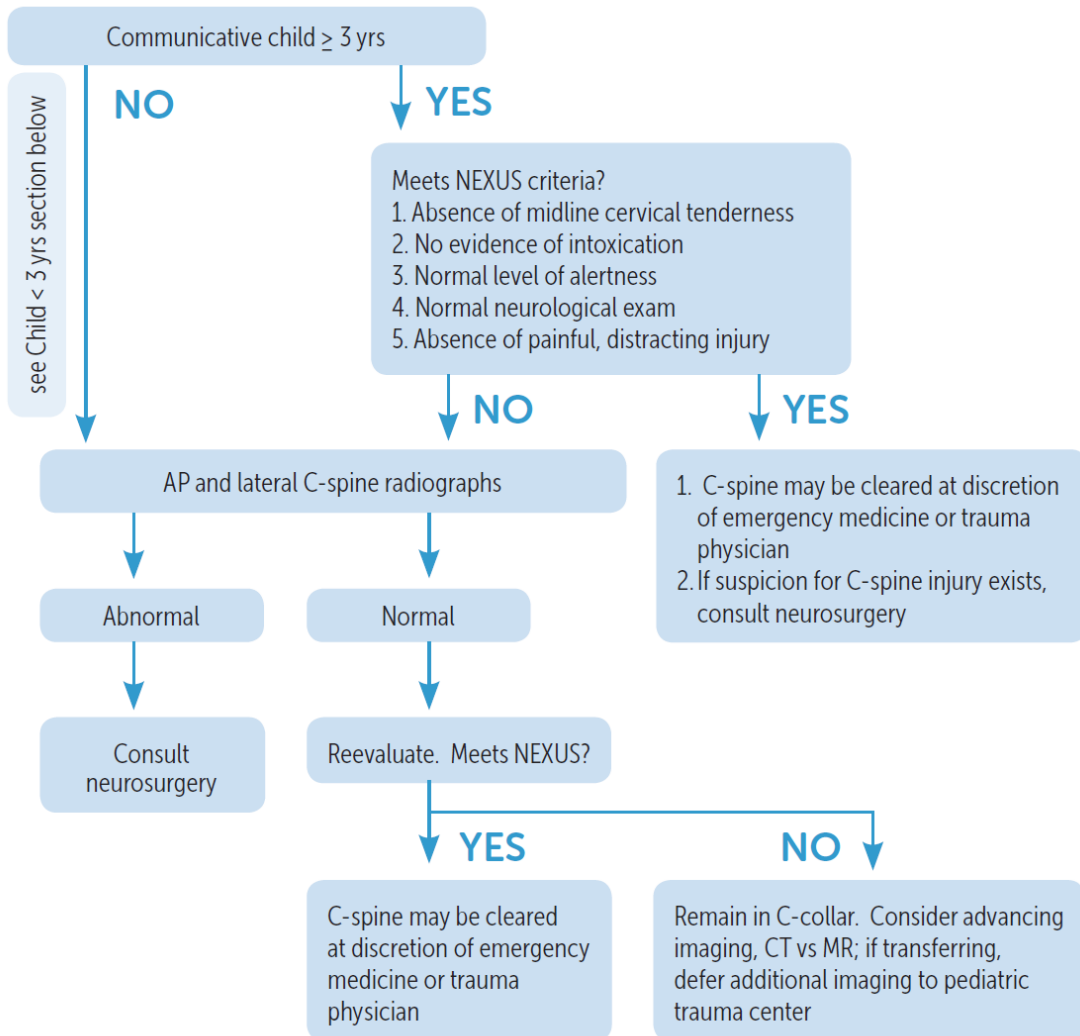
Effective Date: 1/1/2020

Next Review Date:

Pediatric Cervical Spine Clearance Protocol

Evaluation of a Child in a Rigid Cervical Collar

Apply to all patients < 15 years of age with low suspicion for fracture. If patient is symptomatic, consider early consultation with neurosurgery prior to imaging.



Child Age < 3 yrs

Strongly recommend cervical spine immobilization and plain radiograph if patient has: altered mental status, focal neurologic deficits, apparent neck pain, torticollis, substantial torso injury, predisposing condition (Down’s syndrome, JIA, OI, history of CSI), high risk-MVC (head-on collision, ejection, death in compartment, > 55MPH), axial load. If these factors are NOT present, clear at attending physician’s discretion

“Factors Associated with Cervical Spine Injury in Children After Blunt Trauma” Leonard JC et al.

Annals of EM. 2010