

Blunt trauma of head, neck, torso and extremities

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HEAD

- Superficial injuries – oedema and reddening, an abrasion, bruises and lacerations
- Fractures of face bones
- Fractures of skull
 - linear fractures – blow or fall on the side or top of the head (with abrasions, bruises and lacerations of scalp) – a. meningea media
 - depressed fractures – focal impact (hammer, axe) – radiating lines and concentric circles – rupture of dura mater, subarachnoidal bleeding and contusions of brain – traumatic epilepsy
 - ring fracture (foramen occipitale magnum)
 - secondary fractures – orbital roof of eye cavity (anterior fossa) – fall on occipital area

HEAD

- Extradural haemorrhage – middle meningeal artery
- Subdural haemorrhage – much more common than ↑, acute x chronic
- Subarachnoidal haemorrhage – natural (berry aneurysm) x trauma (contusion of brain and bleeding from vessels beneath arachnoid)

Brain damage - concussion

- cerebral contusions and lacerations (contre coup x coup)
- diffuse axonal injury
- cerebral oedema

Spinal injury – constriction of spine

- Upper cervical spine and atlanto-occipital joint – hyperflexion x hyperextension (whiplash injury)
- Transection of the thoracic spine – fall down from height, traffic accidents
- Wedge fracture – hyperflexion (thorax and lumbal vertebra)
- Compresive fracture (thorax and lumbal vertebra)
- Intervertebral discus – spine compression

Chest injuries

- Fractures of ribs, sternum and spine
- More than 3 ribs together serial and paralel fractures (flail chest) – pneumothorax, haemothorax
- Laceration of pleura
- Contusion, laceration, dilaceration or full separation of lungs and heart
- Rupture of ascending thoracic aorta (fall from height)

Abdominal injuries

- Bleeding under capsule (liver, spleen), contusion, laceration and dilaceration of spleen, liver and kidney
- Danger – secondary capsular damage and massive bleeding to abdominal cavity
- Risk of rupture of stomach, intestine, urinary bladder and uterus if they are full of content
- Pancreas – prominency of lumbal vertebra to the abdomen – risk at kick or heavy blow