

CAP18 Head Injury

The trainee will be able to evaluate the patient who presents with a traumatic head injury, stabilize, assess, appropriate investigate and implement a management plan.		
Knowledge	Assessment Methods	GMP Domains
Know the anatomy of the scalp, skull and brain, the pathophysiology of head injury (primary and secondary brain injury) and the symptoms and signs	E, C, Mi, ACAT	1
Know the indications for urgent CT scanning (national guidelines for CT imaging in head injury). Know the CT appearances of the common head injuries	E, C, Mi, ACAT	1
Know the indications for admission following head injury	E, C, Mi, ACAT	1
Know which patients can be safely discharged	E, C, Mi, ACAT	1
Skills		
Be able to use the ABC approach to the management of a head injury patient, with cervical spine immobilisation	E, D	1
Be able to demonstrate to use of the GCS and ability to identify those who will need intubation and ventilation	E, MI, ACAT	1
Elicit the important facts from the history and undertake a full neurological exam to elicit signs of head injury and neurological deficit	E, Mi, C	1
Recognise and initially manage the secondary consequences of head injury (e.g. loss of airway patency, seizures, raised ICP)	Mi, S, D	1
Behaviour		
Know when to seek senior and anaesthetic, neurosurgical support	ACAT, C	2
Optimise team working between critical care, neurosurgery, emergency and acute medicine	ACAT, C	2