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• Any patient with significant trauma will be assessed as whether they require spinal motion restriction (SMR).

CONTRAINDICATIONS

• Rigid cervical collars may increase mortality from penetrating head & neck injuries and may cause an increase in intracranial pressure (ICP).

NOTES

NOTE: Long spine boards are not necessary to properly limit spinal movement. They may be helpful for short-term use for extrication, egress, or transfer onto a stretcher. Prolonged or inappropriate use of long spine boards may cause injury

- 1. Rigid cervical collars are associated with an increased mortality rate with these injuries.
- 2. Acute changes in cognition may be seen with concussion or post-ictal states.
- 3. Be especially cautious with extensive burns and pelvic / long bone fractures.
- 4. Neurological symptoms such as paraesthesias are concerning for spinal injury even, in the absence of objective signs.
- 5. Underlying diseases including ankylosing spondylitis, rheumatoid arthritis, and advanced osteoarthritis increase the risk of spinal injury, including from the immobilization. DO NOT <u>FORCE</u> THE PATIENT INTO A RIGID COLLAR!

	LINKS
NONE	

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VERSION CHANGES (refer to X06 for change tracking)

• Identifier legend at bottom of flow chart replaces work scope statement in header