
Title: **ADULT HEAD INJURY PATHWAY** Ref No: 2167 Version 1
Classification: Protocol

Directorate: Medical Services

Responsible for review: Deputy Medical Director Due for Review: 18-09-2020
[Document Control](#)

Ratified by: Clinical Director of the Emergency Department

Applicability: All patients as indicated

Flowchart Head Injury Pathway – Page 2

Flowchart linked to:

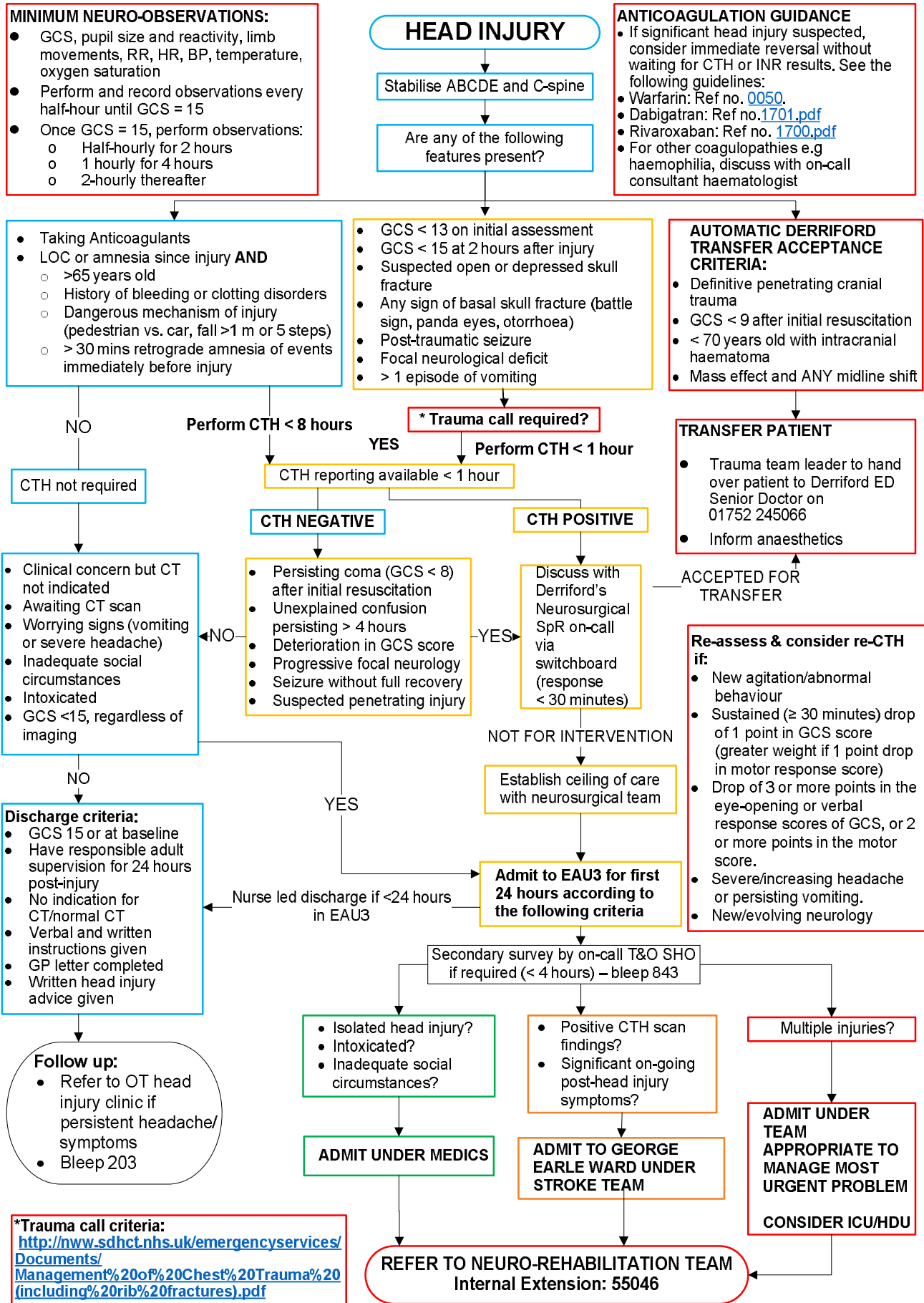
[0050](#): Warfarin

[1701](#): Dabigatran - Patient receiving - Haemorrhage Protocol

[1700](#): Rivaroxaban / Apixaban, Patients receiving: Haemorrhage Protocol

Trauma Call Criteria:

[http://nww.sdhct.nhs.uk/emergencyservices/Documents/Management%20of%20Chest%20Trauma%20\(including%20rib%20fractures\).pdf](http://nww.sdhct.nhs.uk/emergencyservices/Documents/Management%20of%20Chest%20Trauma%20(including%20rib%20fractures).pdf)



Please refer to links on Page 1

11. Document Control Information

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Please note this document is only valid from the date approved below, and checks should be made that it is the most up to date version available.

If printed, this document is only valid for the day of printing.

Ref No:	2167		
Document title:	Adult Head Injury Pathway		
Purpose of document:	Protocol		
Date of issue:	18 September 2017	Next review date:	18 September 2020
Version:	1	Last review date:	
Author:	Deputy Medical Director		
Directorate:	Medical Services		
Equality Impact:	The guidance contained in this document is intended to be inclusive for all patients within the clinical group specified, regardless of age, disability, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, race and ethnicity & religion or belief		
Committee(s) approving the document:	Clinical Director of the Emergency Department		
Date approved:	11 September 2017		
Links or overlaps with other policies:	All TSDFT Trust Strategies, policies and procedure documents		

	<i>Please select</i>	
	Yes	No
Have you considered using Equality Impact Assessment?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Does this document have implications regarding the Care Act? <i>If yes please state:</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Does this document have training implications? <i>If yes please state:</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Does this document have financial implications? <i>If yes please state:</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Is this document a direct replacement for another? <i>If yes please state which documents are being replaced:</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Document Amendment History

Date	Version no.	Amendment summary	Ratified by:
18 September 2017	1	New	Clinical Director of the Emergency Department
2 February 2018	1	Review date extended from 2 years to 3 years	

The Mental Capacity Act 2005

The Mental Capacity Act provides a statutory framework for people who lack capacity to make decisions for themselves, or who have capacity and want to make preparations for a time when they lack capacity in the future. It sets out who can take decisions, in which situations, and how they should go about this. It covers a wide range of decision making from health and welfare decisions to finance and property decisions

Enshrined in the Mental Capacity Act is the principle that people must be assumed to have capacity unless it is established that they do not. This is an important aspect of law that all health and social care practitioners must implement when proposing to undertake any act in connection with care and treatment that requires consent. In circumstances where there is an element of doubt about a person's ability to make a decision due to 'an impairment of or disturbance in the functioning of the mind or brain' the practitioner must implement the Mental Capacity Act.

The legal framework provided by the Mental Capacity Act 2005 is supported by a Code of Practice, which provides guidance and information about how the Act works in practice. The Code of Practice has statutory force which means that health and social care practitioners have a legal duty to have regard to it when working with or caring for adults who may lack capacity to make decisions for themselves.

“The Act is intended to assist and support people who may lack capacity and to discourage anyone who is involved in caring for someone who lacks capacity from being overly restrictive or controlling. It aims to balance an individual's right to make decisions for themselves with their right to be protected from harm if they lack the capacity to make decisions to protect themselves”. (3)

All Trust workers can access the Code of Practice, Mental Capacity Act 2005 Policy, Mental Capacity Act 2005 Practice Guidance, information booklets and all assessment, checklists and Independent Mental Capacity Advocate referral forms on iCare

http://icare/Operations/mental_capacity_act/Pages/default.aspx

Infection Control

All staff will have access to Infection Control Policies and comply with the standards within them in the work place. All staff will attend Infection Control Training annually as part of their mandatory training programme.

Rapid Equality Impact Assessment (for use when writing policies and procedures)

Policy Title (and number)	D1672 Torbay Adult Head Injury Pathway	Version and Date	Version 1 December 2016
Policy Author	Deputy Medical Director		
An equality impact assessment (EIA) is a process designed to ensure that a policy, project or scheme does not discriminate or disadvantage people. EIAs also improve and promote equality. Consider the nature and extent of the impact, not the number of people affected.			
EQUALITY ANALYSIS: How well do people from protected groups fare in relation to the general population? <i>PLEASE NOTE: Any 'Yes' answers may trigger a full EIA and must be referred to the equality leads below</i>			
Is it likely that the policy/procedure could treat people from protected groups less favorably than the general population? (see below)			
Age	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Disability	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Race	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Gender	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Gender Reassignment	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Pregnancy/ Maternity	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Sexual Orientation	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Religion/Belief (non)	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Marriage/ Civil Partnership	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Is it likely that the policy/procedure could affect particular 'Inclusion Health' groups less favorably than the general population? (substance misuse; teenage mums; carers ¹ ; travellers ² ; homeless ³ ; convictions; social isolation ⁴ ; refugees)			Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Please provide details for each protected group where you have indicated 'Yes'.			
VISION AND VALUES: Policies must aim to remove unintentional barriers and promote inclusion			
Is inclusive language ⁵ used throughout?			Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Are the services outlined in the policy/procedure fully accessible ⁶ ?			Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Does the policy/procedure encourage individualised and person-centred care?			Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Could there be an adverse impact on an individual's independence or autonomy ⁷ ?			Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If 'Yes', how will you mitigate this risk to ensure fair and equal access?			
EXTERNAL FACTORS			
Is the policy/procedure a result of national legislation which cannot be modified in any way?			Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
What is the reason for writing this policy? (Is it a result in a change of legislation/ national research?)			
Nice head injury guidelines			
Who was consulted when drafting this policy/procedure? What were the recommendations/suggestions?			
All clinical groups			
ACTION PLAN: Please list all actions identified to address any impacts			
Action	Person responsible	Completion date	
AUTHORISATION:			
By signing below, I confirm that the named person responsible above is aware of the actions assigned to them			
Name of person completing the form	Deputy Medical Director	Signature	
Validated by (line manager)		Signature	