

## **The Early Management Of Spine Injuries**

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Spinal trauma is common in patients who had undergone high energy trauma. Failure to detect spinal trauma and execute appropriate management could lead to worsening of existing neurological function. There is also confusion surrounding the use of more advanced imaging modality in the trauma setting. In patients with acute spinal cord injury, prevention of secondary spinal cord injury is most important in the early management of spinal injuries. Therefore, in this instructional course lecture, the focus will be on the early management of spine injuries. The outline of the presentation will include cervical spine clearance in the trauma patient, when we proceed with spine imaging and how to interpret these images, early management of specific traumatic spinal injuries, prevention of secondary spinal cord injury in patients with neurological deficit and the controversy surrounding the use of methylprednisolone in acute spinal cord injury.