



HEAD AND SPINE INJURIES



Escambia County, Florida - ALS/BLS Medical Protocol

If history, symptoms, or signs of head or spinal injuries are present, manually immobilize the head and neck while maintaining a patent airway using a modified jaw-thrust method.

Immobilization of the entire spine is indicated following initial stabilization.

Supportive Care

1. [Trauma Supportive Care Protocol](#).
2. If not hypotensive (systolic BP \geq 90 mmHg), elevate head of backboard 30 degrees (12-18 inches).

ALS Level 1

1. If signs of brainstem herniation exist (e.g. pupillary dilation, asymmetric pupillary reactivity, or motor posturing), consider intubation and hyperventilate patient.

ALS Level 2 (*Physician Authorization Required*)

1. If patient is seizing, see [Seizure Protocol](#), (avoid glucose containing solutions and medications).



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