

Types of Spinal Injuries

- Compression
- Distraction (pulling apart)
- Lateral bending
- Flexion, rotation, extension

Signs & Symptoms of Spinal Injuries

- Paralysis of the extremities
- Pain with or without movement
- Tenderness along the spine
- Loss of sensation
- Impaired breathing
- "C-3, -4, -5 keep the diaphragm alive"
- Deformity along spine (rare)
- Posturing
- Priapism
- Incontinence

Assessing the Spinal Injury

Questions to ask:

- What happened?
- Where does it hurt?
- Does your neck or back hurt?
- Can you move your hands and feet?
- Can you feel me touching your fingers? Toes?

Treating Spinal Injury

- Take BSI precautions
- Instruct the patient not to move
- Stabilize cervical spine & ABCs
- Evaluate mechanism of injury
- Evaluate hand grip and foot strength
- Assess pulse, movement, and sensation in extremities
- Assess the neck and spine
- Administer high-concentration

<p>of this patient?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What immediate treatment should be provided?• How should you monitor changing levels of responsiveness in a patient with a head injury?	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
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