

## **HEAD TRAUMA**

### I. **PRIORITIES:**

ABC's should always be assessed and treated.

### II. **TREATMENT:**

A. ABC's

B. Oxygen 15 liters/minute by non-rebreather mask. If respiratory assistance is required, hyperventilate via bag/valve mask with reservoir (24/minute).

C. Immobilize spine. Assume neck injury in all with a head injury.

D. If in shock, treat according to shock protocol.

E. Scalp hemorrhage can be life-threatening - Dress with pressure dressing.

### III. **NOTE:**

See Modified Glasgow Coma Scale on page 2

	<b>Test</b>	<b>Patient's Response</b>	<b>Score</b>
Eye Opening	Spontaneous speech	Opens eyes on own	4
		Opens eyes when asked to in a loud voice	3
	Pain	Opens eyes when pinched	2
	Pain	Does not open eyes	1
Best Motor Response	Commands	Follows simple commands	6
	Pain	Pulls hand away when pinched	5
	Pain	Pulls a part of body away when examiner pinches him	4
	Pain	Flexes body inappropriately to pain (decorticate posturing)	3
	Pain	Body becomes rigid in an extended position when examiner pinches victim (decerebrate posturing)	2
	Pain	No motor response to pain	1
Verbal Response (Talking)	Speech	Carries on a conversation correctly and tells examiner where his is, who he is, month, and year	5
	Speech	Confused and disoriented	4
	Speech	Speech is clear but makes no sense	3
	Speech	Makes garbled sounds that examiner cannot understand	2
	Speech	Makes no sounds	1