

## Trauma: Spinal Injuries

### EMR

- Immobilize C-Spine
- ABC's and vital signs
- Secure to long backboard providing lateral immobilization- first the body then the head
- Pad under head to achieve neutral alignment in adults
- Pad appropriately to achieve neutral alignment (consider using the Back Raft)
- Remove motorcycle, bicycle helmets when necessary for airway management or alignment.
- Football helmets may be removed at EMT's judgment – if done, shoulder pads must be removed too

### EMR STOP

### EMT

- Cardiac Monitor

### EMT STOP

### EMT IV

### ADVANCED EMT

- Vascular Access

### EMT IV / ADVANCED EMT STOP

### Non-Immobilization of Spine in Trauma Patients

- No midline point tenderness of cervical spine
- No mental impairment. Patient must be conscious and alert
- No alcohol use or odor of an alcoholic beverage
- No distracting injuries
- A neuro exam must be performed without positive findings
- Motor: Shoulder Abduction, adduction/elbow flexion/extension. Hand grip and wrist flexion/extension
- Sensory: Document any subjective complaints and do pinprick at biceps/forearm/hand and thigh/calf/foot
- Findings must be well documented and a thorough report must be given to receiving facility stating the reasons why spinal immobilization was not performed in the field.