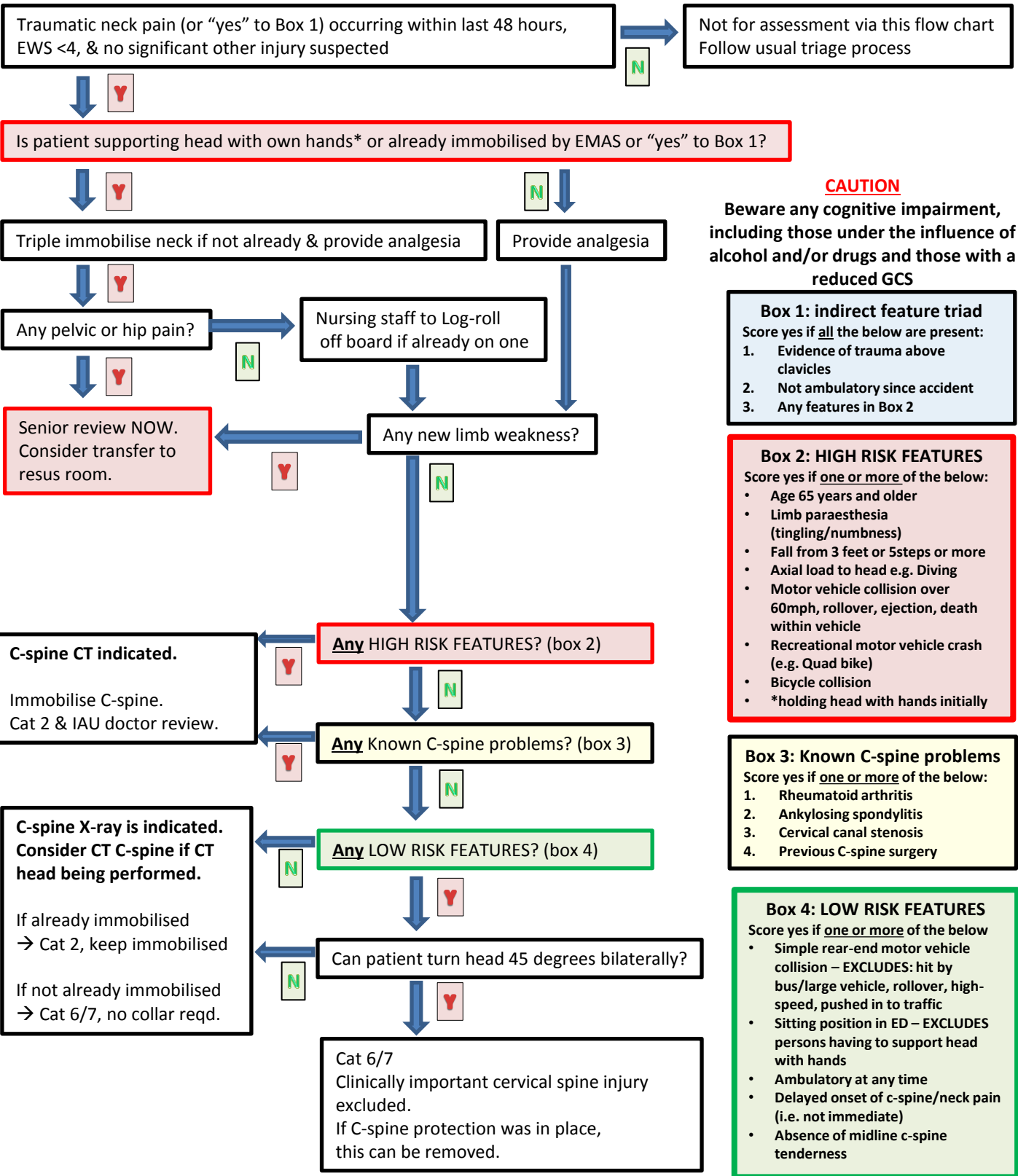


NUH Adult Emergency Department C-Spine Assessment Tool



CAUTION

Beware any cognitive impairment, including those under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs and those with a reduced GCS

Box 1: indirect feature triad
Score yes if all the below are present:

- Evidence of trauma above clavicles
- Not ambulatory since accident
- Any features in Box 2

Box 2: HIGH RISK FEATURES
Score yes if one or more of the below:

- Age 65 years and older
- Limb paraesthesia (tingling/numbness)
- Fall from 3 feet or 5steps or more
- Axial load to head e.g. Diving
- Motor vehicle collision over 60mph, rollover, ejection, death within vehicle
- Recreational motor vehicle crash (e.g. Quad bike)
- Bicycle collision
- *holding head with hands initially

Box 3: Known C-spine problems
Score yes if one or more of the below:

- Rheumatoid arthritis
- Ankylosing spondylitis
- Cervical canal stenosis
- Previous C-spine surgery

Box 4: LOW RISK FEATURES
Score yes if one or more of the below

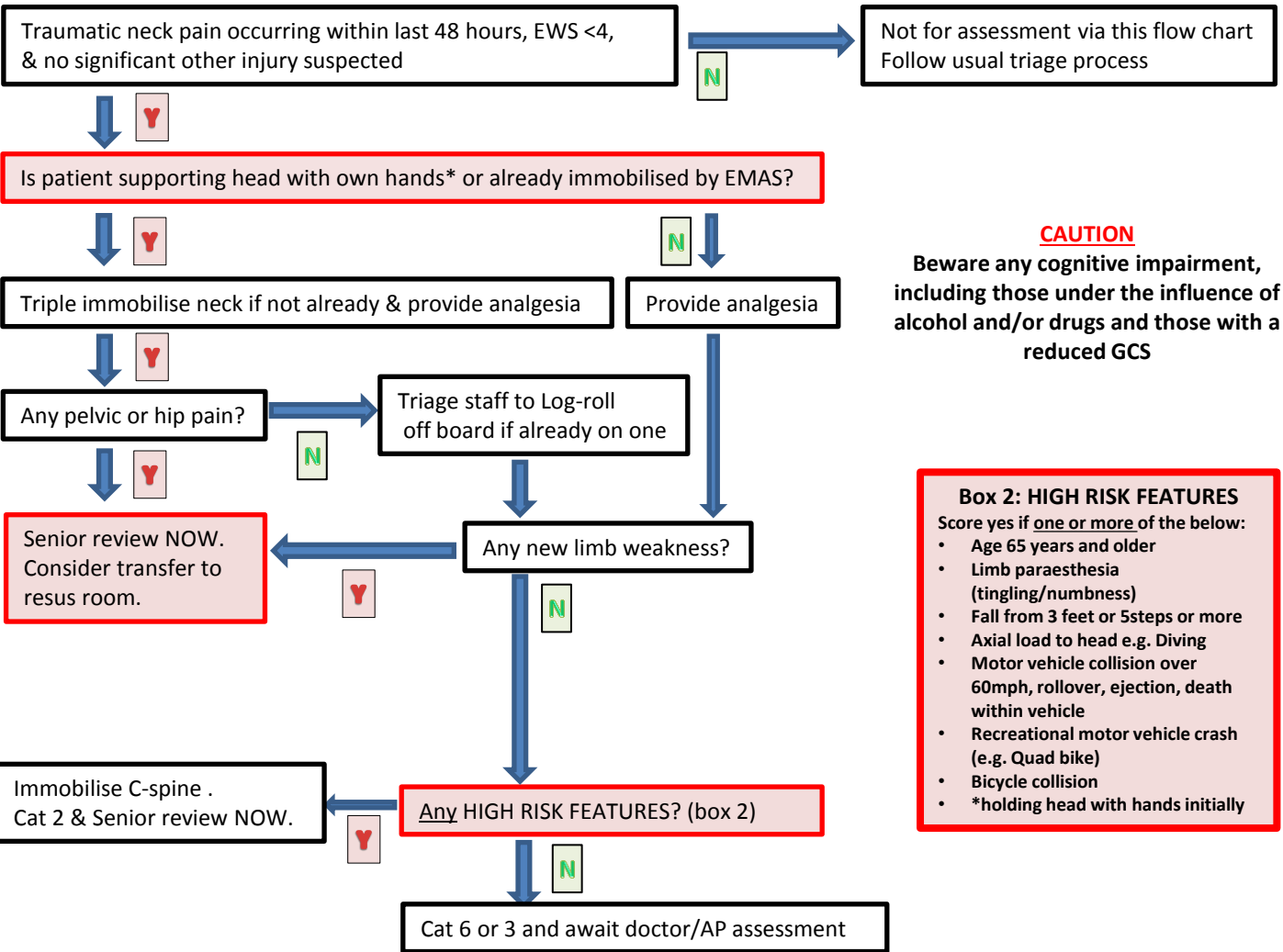
- Simple rear-end motor vehicle collision – EXCLUDES: hit by bus/large vehicle, rollover, high-speed, pushed in to traffic
- Sitting position in ED – EXCLUDES persons having to support head with hands
- Ambulatory at any time
- Delayed onset of c-spine/neck pain (i.e. not immediate)
- Absence of midline c-spine tenderness

For use by nursing and medical staff within NUH ED. Applies to patients aged over 16 and over with traumatic neck pain. Based on Canadian C-spine Rules and NICE CG176.

Clinical suspicion/opinion over-rides this assessment tool.

Developed by J. Coleman and D. Purnell for NUH ED dept. 08/08/14. Review date 08/08/16.

NUH Adult Emergency Department C-Spine Assessment Tool for triage



CAUTION

Beware any cognitive impairment, including those under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs and those with a reduced GCS

Box 2: HIGH RISK FEATURES

Score yes if one or more of the below:

- Age 65 years and older
- Limb paraesthesia (tingling/numbness)
- Fall from 3 feet or 5 steps or more
- Axial load to head e.g. Diving
- Motor vehicle collision over 60mph, rollover, ejection, death within vehicle
- Recreational motor vehicle crash (e.g. Quad bike)
- Bicycle collision
- *holding head with hands initially

For use by nursing and medical staff within NUH ED. Applies to patients aged over 16 and over with traumatic neck pain. Clinical suspicion/opinion over-rides this assessment tool.

Developed by J. Coleman and D. Purnell for NUH ED dept. 23/06/14. Review date 23/06/15.