Mercy EMS Education

Clinical Operations Team

Fine Tuning Our Practice

October 7, 2025

PULSARA Reporting

If you have a change in patient condition or significant vital sign changes from your initial report, please update in PULSARA or radio a change to the ED.

Patients with trauma mechanisms and greater than 65 years old CAN NOT be cleared by our C-spine clearance protocol.

- **The literature (including the NEXUS study) has not included patients above the age of 65 for c-spine clearance in the field.**
- **Patients greater than 65 do not report pain as often with cervical spine injuries and our exam is not reliable.**

Patients with a complaint of "chest pain" should receive aspirin unless they have a contraindication.

- **Patients with abdominal pain or epigastric pain and concern for GI bleed, trauma, stroke or other possible bleeding complaints can be used as a relative contraindication and should be documented.**

Patients should not be intubated in the ambulance bay. Make a clinical decision on if the patient should be intubated on scene – or if a short scene time and short transport time is more appropriate.

- **High risk procedures (including intubation) can be benefited by extra personnel, equipment and resources.**

TXA may not be necessary in all patients with bleeding.

- **If a patient has bleeding and can be controlled with a tourniquet, compression or bandaging – TXA is not necessary (and may increase complications if given and not needed).**
- **It bleeding cannot be controlled or is in a non-compressible location (the torso, groin, axilla, etc) – TXA would be appropriate.**

