Assess and treat as required

Manual in-line stabilisation (MILS) as tolerated

Assess and treat as required

Imaging needed?  

Imaging needed?  

Yes

Imaging

No

Unconscious?

Yes

Full protection (see text for details)

Assess and treat as required

No

Suspected spinal injury

Yes

No

Imaging needed?  

Spinal imaging required if YES to any of the following:
- Posterior midline spinal tenderness
- Focal neurological deficit or pain
- Sedative drugs
- Painful distracting injury
- Reduced mental state

Specific concerns?  

No

Yes

Refer to spinal injury specialist
Protect spine as tolerated

No

Adequate movement and no specific concerns?  

No

Yes

Yes

Leave collar off
Document assessment in history

Refer to spinal injury specialist
Protect spine as tolerated

No

Adequate movement and no specific concerns?  

Yes

2 Check for:
- Focal pain or tenderness
- Abnormal or uncertain imaging (if imaging carried out)
- Drowsy or uncooperative or unable to assess

Yes

3 Assess:
- For rotation 45° to left and right
- Controls head appropriately, tolerates rotation of trunk and bears weight when vertical

Yes

Abnormal?

No

No

Yes

Spinal imaging, referral and clearance