



*Orbital Fracture see <https://www.utahptn.org/pediatric-trauma-guidelines-orbital-trauma-utah/>

**Septal hematoma requires urgent drainage to avoid necrosis

This algorithm does not replace clinical judgment and is not intended to be prescriptive for all patients.

Interfacility Transfer for Isolated Facial Trauma



Instructions:

- ❖ For patients of all ages with **isolated** facial trauma
- ❖ After *stabilization*, follow guidelines based on clinical/radiographic diagnoses
- ❖ For multiple facial injuries, combine guidelines
- ❖ Patients not transferred should be referred for the *next available* outpatient appointment



All patients should be transferred that present with:

- ❖ Airway compromise or uncontrollable hemorrhage
- ❖ Loss of vision/increased IOP
- ❖ Fractures with overlying full-thickness soft tissue injury/loss
- ❖ Facial ballistic injury
- ❖ Panfacial* fractures

UPPER FACIAL BONES

Frontal Sinus Fracture

transfer if

- ❖ Comminuted/depressed posterior table and/or
- ❖ CSF leak

MIDDLE FACIAL BONES

Zygomatic Arch Fracture
Maxillary Sinus Fracture
Nasal Bone Fracture



- ❖ Do *not* require transfer

Orbit Fracture
ZMC Fracture
NOE Fracture

transfer if

- ❖ Restricted ocular motility (*i.e.* entrapment)
- ❖ Bradycardia (*i.e.* oculocardiac reflex)
- ❖ Retrobulbar hematoma and/or
- ❖ CSF Leak

Le Fort Fracture**

transfer if

- ❖ Displacement and/or
- ❖ LeFort II or III pattern

LOWER FACIAL BONES

Hard Palate Fracture
Maxillary Alveolus Fracture
Mandible Fracture



- ❖ Do *not* require transfer

SOFT TISSUE

Soft Tissue Injury

transfer if

- ❖ >2cm of missing tissue
- ❖ Eyelid or globe involvement
- ❖ Facial nerve involvement and/or
- ❖ Parotid duct involvement

CSF – cerebrospinal fluid; IOP – intra-ocular pressure; ZMC – zygomaticomaxillary complex; NOE – naso-orbitoethmoid; cm – centimeter. *Panfacial – fractures of the upper, middle and lower third of the face. **This is a conditional recommendation, as such LeFort fractures are appropriate for discussion on a case-by-case basis. Pontell et al., 2022.

Interfacility Transfer Guidelines for Isolated Facial Trauma: A Multidisciplinary Expert Consensus

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