

# 2020 Pediatric Abdominal Injury Clinical Guideline

## Isolated Blunt Abdominal Injury

**PED-ED**

Start

**Age ≥ 5 years**

Torso ecchymosis, bruising; seat belt sign  
 Abdominal pain; tenderness  
 Abdominal distention; rigidity  
 Emesis  
 \*Concerning mechanism

**Age < 5 years**

Torso ecchymosis, bruising; seat belt sign  
 Abdominal pain; tenderness  
 Abdominal distention; rigidity  
 Emesis  
 \*Concerning mechanism

Hemodynamically stable?

CT of abdomen w/ IV contrast

YES

NO

Transfer to PED1

ANY of the following

- Free air
- Pancreas injury
- Hollow organ injury
- Solid organ injury Grade ≥ 3

YES

Transfer to PED1

*If hemodynamically unstable*

*NS 20 mL/kg*

*If hemodynamics not improved*

*10-20 mL/kg PRBC*

*Repeat transfusion as needed and continue during transport  
 Expeditious transfer*

ANY of the following

- CT negative with symptoms
- Solid organ injury Grade 1 or 2

YES

Transfer to PED, PED+ or PED1

*\*Concerning mechanism*

*Fall > 10 feet*

*High speed motor vehicle crash*

*Auto versus pedestrian*

*Ejection from vehicle*

*Physical Abuse*

ALL of the following

- Asymptomatic > 24 hours
- Passed oral challenge without antiemetics
- Age-appropriate ambulation
- CT negative

YES

Consider discharge

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