

# 2020 Pediatric Abdominal Injury Clinical Guideline

## Isolated Blunt Abdominal Injury

**PED**

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

CT of abdomen w/ IV contrast

Hemodynamically stable ?

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

If symptoms persist  
> 24 hrs post admission

ANY of the following

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

YES

Admit

\*Concerning mechanism

Fall > 10 feet  
High speed motor vehicle crash  
Auto versus pedestrian  
Ejection from vehicle  
Physical Abuse

ALL of the following

- Asymptomatic for ≥ 2 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.