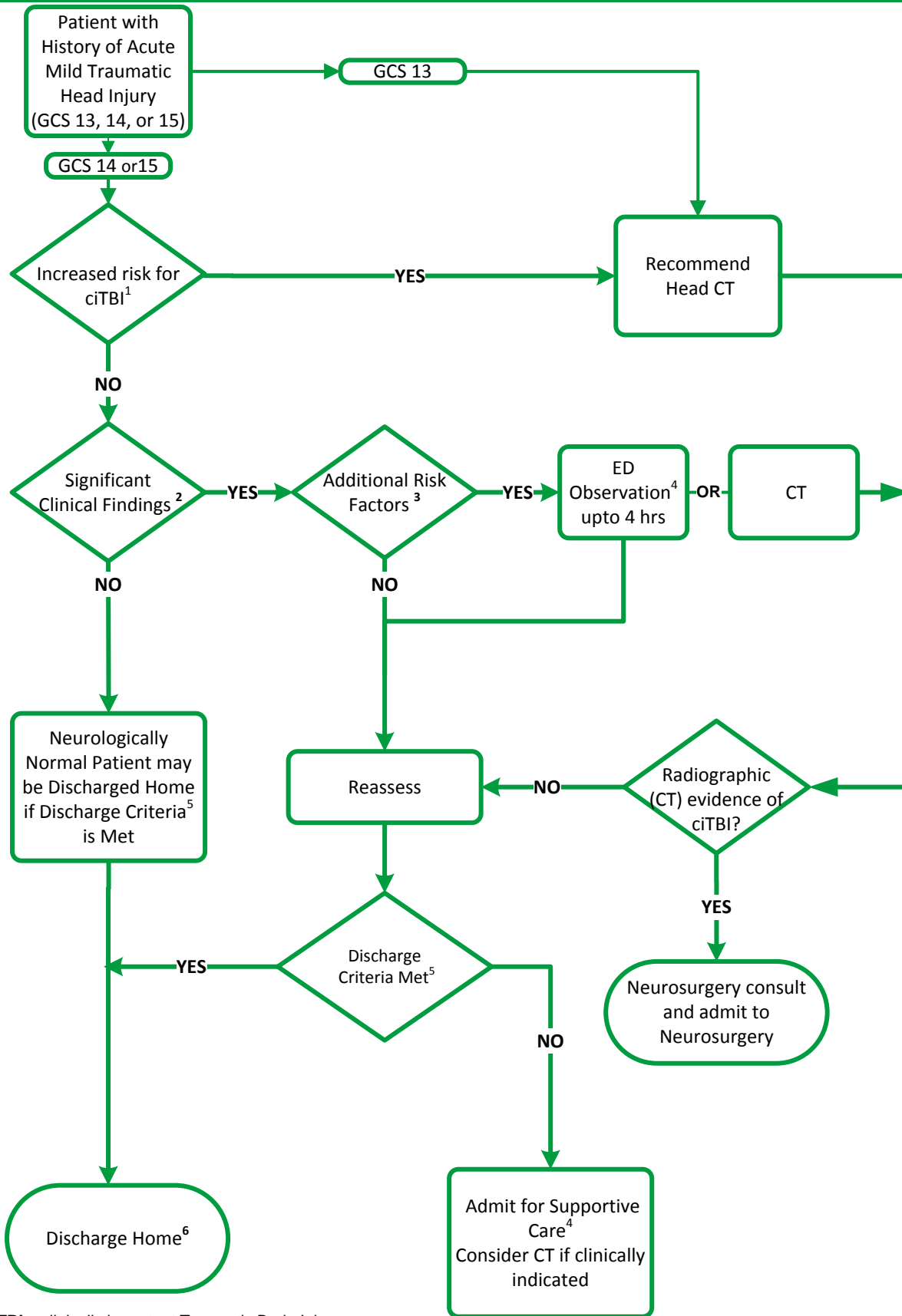


Emergency Department: Acute Mild Traumatic Head Injury (GCS ≥ 13) CLINICAL PRACTICE GUIDELINE

INITIAL 4.13.11
UPDATED 3.3.16
UPDATED 6.18.19



¹Increased risk for ciTBI

- Evidence of Skull Fracture
- Abnormal Neurological exam

²Significant Clinical Findings

- Altered Mental Status such as Agitation, Persistent/Deep Somnolence or Repetitive Questioning
- Persistent Slow Response to Verbal Communication
- Occipital, Parietal or Temporal hematoma
- Severe Headache
- Multiple Emesis
- Severe mechanism of injury:
 - Motor Vehicle Crash with Ejection
 - Death of another passenger
 - Rollover
 - Pedestrian or bicyclist w/o helmet struck by motor vehicle
 - Fall > 5 feet if > 2 years; > 3 feet if < 2 years.
 - Head struck by high-impact object

³Additional Risk Factors

- Multiple symptoms
- Loss of consciousness
- Worsening signs or symptoms
- Younger infant
- Delayed onset seizure
- Persistent GCS of 13 or 14

⁴ED Observation

- Close observation and frequent reassessment are recommended upto 4 hrs.
- If worsening obtain CT
- If there is a high speed mechanism with the isolated head injury; admit to Neurosurgery*

⁵Discharge Criteria

- Pain & Emesis controlled
- Caretakers understand Discharge Care Instructions
- Caretakers able to return to ED if symptoms worsen

⁶Discharge Home

- Discharge using current Concussion teaching sheet which includes:
 - PCP follow-up information
 - Detailed Activity Restrictions
 - Return to School
 - Return to Play
- Provide Contact # for Concussion Program Nurse **404-785-KIDS (5437)**, select option 3, and ask for concussion nurse.

ciTBI clinically important Traumatic Brain Injury
GCS Glasgow Coma Scale
LOC Loss of Consciousness
PCP Primary Care Physician

Developed through the efforts of Children's Healthcare of Atlanta and physicians on Children's medical staff in the interest of advancing pediatric healthcare. This guideline is a general guideline and does not represent a professional care standard governing providers' obligation to patients. Ultimately the patient's physician must determine the most appropriate care. © 2016 Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, Inc.