Adult Head Injury Pathway

Worcestershire Royal and Alexandra Hospital Trauma Patients

April 2013 (revised)

Patient arrives at Worcester Royal or Alexandra Hospital And is either

- a) Trauma Tool Positive for Acute trauma / Major trauma
- b) Has clearly significant head injury on arrival
- c) CT scan demonstrating clear need for neurosurgical intervention
- d) Is poly-trauma
- e) Not triaged or incorrectly triaged & after assessment is in need of specialist neurological intervention
- f) Entered TU for stabilisation & requires further specialist neurological intervention

Immediately contact the Regional Trauma Desk Emergency telephone number 01384 215695. The RTD will initiate a hyper-acute transfer to Queen Elizabeth Hospital (MTC)

Patient arrives at Worcester Royal or Alexandra Hospital And is either

- a) Trauma Tool Negative or Not Acute trauma/Major trauma
- b) Does not have neurological trauma
- c) Not "clear cut" but neurosurgical advice is necessary +/- transfer
- d) Does not require neurological intervention
- e) Patient has subdural haematoma only

Contact Neurosurgical Team at
University Hospitals Coventry & Warwick (MTC). If neurosurgical
registrar is not available in a timely manner contact consultant directly

Further Information

Where the patient needs transferring out of the TU the Regional Trauma Desk will try to arrange a MERIT team to collect the patient. If this is not timely / feasible the TU will provide an anaesthetic escort.

If a patient needs their airway securing they should be transferred out ASAP and a scan should not slow things down. If not it will often be a reasonable approach to scan the patient in the TU to further assess the extent of injury. This may be more difficult at night.