ED Blunt Traumatic Brain Injury Observation Criteria

**Inclusion Criteria:**

- Isolated Head Injury
- GCS 14-15
- Minor Positive Head CT findings consistent with trauma – including minor traumatic SAH, SDH, IPH, IVH, contusion
- Neurosurgery Evaluation and Consult recommending Observation Unit
- Age 18 and above

**Exclusion Criteria:**

- GCS 13 or below
- Epidural Hematoma
- Skull Fracture with intracranial hemorrhage
- More than one post-traumatic seizure
- Age >60
- Multiple traumatic injuries requiring ongoing involvement of more than one consulting service
- Anticoagulation – INR > 1.5, Plavix use
- ED Attending may at his/her discretion decline admitting a patient to the Observation Unit

**Observation Orders/Expectations:**

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<th>ED Will:</th>
<th>Neurosurgery will:</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Write Obs Orders</td>
<td>• Staff with Neurosurgery attending promptly</td>
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<td>• Order follow-up CT per Neurosurg recs</td>
<td>• Re-evaluate patient prior to discharge and document neuro exam and recommendations</td>
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<td>• Write Discharge Instructions/Orders</td>
<td>• Leave written sign-off note with Follow-up and Medication recommendations (if any)</td>
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<td>• Re-evaluate patient while in ED</td>
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<td>• Obs Nurse will document neuro checks with GCS every 2 hours</td>
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Dr. Stephen Lu
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June 2010