

# HMC EM EVIDENCE-BASED CLINICAL ALGORITHM: PEDIATRIC CRANIAL CT AFTER TRAUMA

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**Evidence basis:**

- Pediatric Emergency Care Applied Research Network (PECARN) head injury imaging algorithm (init. pub. *Lancet* 2009; 374:1160)
- Easter JS. Comparison of PECARN, CATCH, and CHALICE rules for children with minor head injury. *Ann Emerg Med* 2014; 64:145.

**This EBCA:**

- has been endorsed by HMC EM and other consultants for education and assistance with clinical practice in HMC's EDs.
- is intended to complement any related multispecialty Clinical Practice Guideline prepared as per HMC policy.
- is not presented as the binding "standard of care" but is rather a reference tool to inform clinical judgment.

**Algorithm aim & applicability:**

This algorithm applies to pediatric (age <18) ED patients presenting to ED within 24 hours of head injury, who do *not* have obvious need for cranial computed tomography (CCT) but in whom CCT is considered; the algorithm aim is to inform EM physicians' imaging decision-making.

