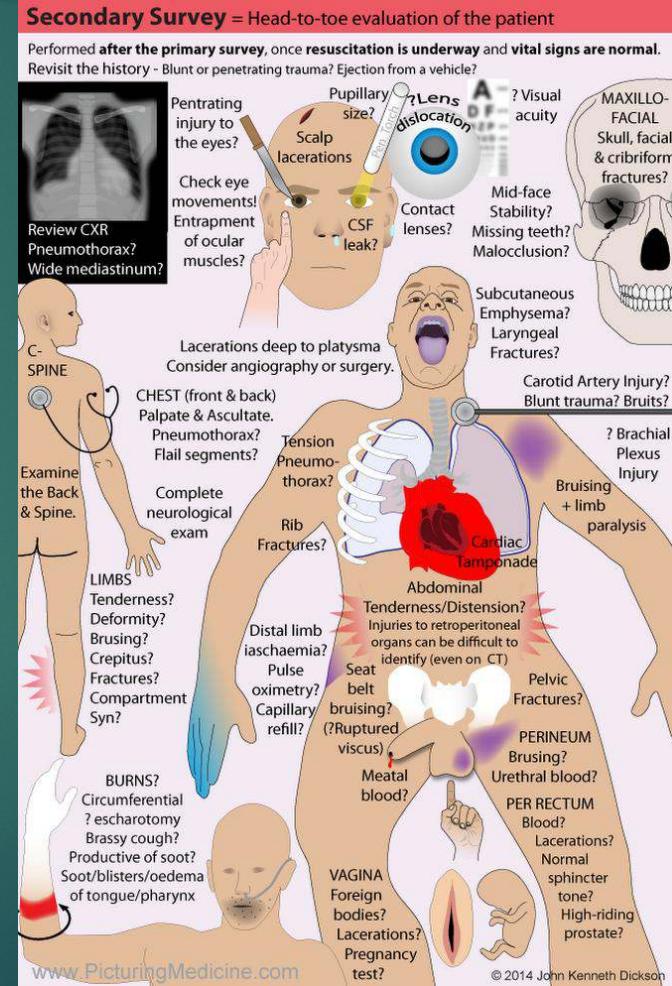


Major Trauma Patient Pathway – Secondary Survey

Secondary Survey is a systematic and detailed head-to-toe examination of all areas of the body with aim to identify all subsequent injuries, it also takes into account the *Mechanism of Injury (MoI)* and patient history.

The secondary findings should be merged by the team leader into a verbal summary.



Major Trauma Patient Pathway – Secondary Survey

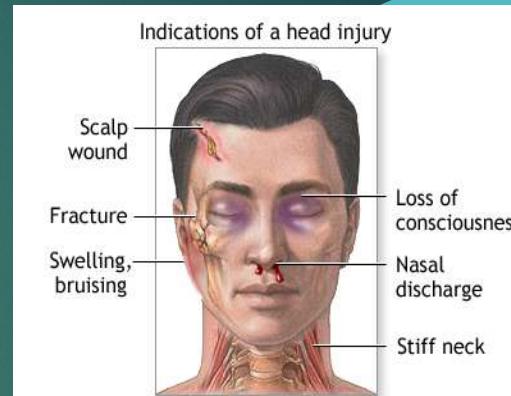
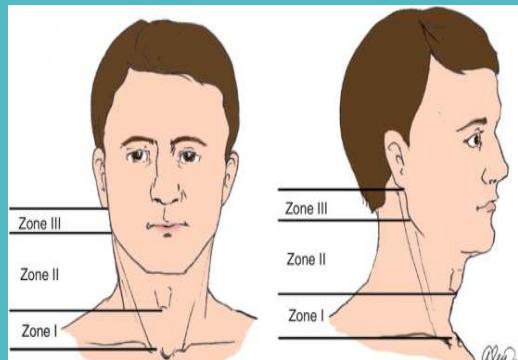
The body areas to examine are:

- Head
- Face including the eyes, nose, mouth and ears

- Neck:

Three major mechanisms described in neck trauma

- Blunt Trauma
- Penetrating Trauma
- Near hanging or strangulation



<https://medlineplus.gov/ency/article/000028.htm> ADAM.



Major Trauma Patient Pathway – Secondary Survey

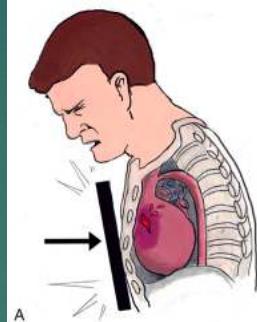


<https://trauma.reach.vt.edu>

- Chest
 - Abdomen and pelvic area (including groin, perineum and genitalia)



<https://www.emaze.com/@AOOZZZLLR>



<https://www.cambridge.org/core/bodleian-handbook/cardiac-trauma/D61563E3>

- ## ➤ **Musculoskeletal system**

- ## ➤ External burns, wounds and contamination



Major Trauma Patient Pathway – Secondary Survey

In the stable patient, the secondary survey takes place immediately after the primary survey.

In the unstable patient, the secondary survey may be staggered while resuscitation is ongoing. Good and clear documentation is paramount, ensuring that no information is lost and the survey eventually gets completed



Major Trauma Patient Pathway – Secondary Survey

Included in the secondary survey:

- ✓ Review radiologic, laboratory and bedside testing reports and noting trends in monitored parameters
- ✓ Detailed history from the patient, family, friends and witnesses
- ✓ Clothing checks for drug and allergy alerts is performed

Spinal clearance can be achieved after the secondary survey and with the appropriate imaging (and in accordance to local protocol)



Major Trauma Patient Pathway – Secondary Survey

The Tertiary survey is the re-examination of the patient's condition. This is generally performed when the patient is admitted on the Critical Care unit or the day after admission.

It is not time critical but this last survey may reveal missed injuries that may require prompt attention.



References

- ▶ Alao T, Waseem M. Neck Trauma. [Updated 2019 Mar 28]. In: StatPearls [Internet]. Treasure Island (FL): StatPearls Publishing; 2020 Jan-. Available from: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK470422/>
- ▶ **European trauma Course Manual 4th edition (pdf format)**

