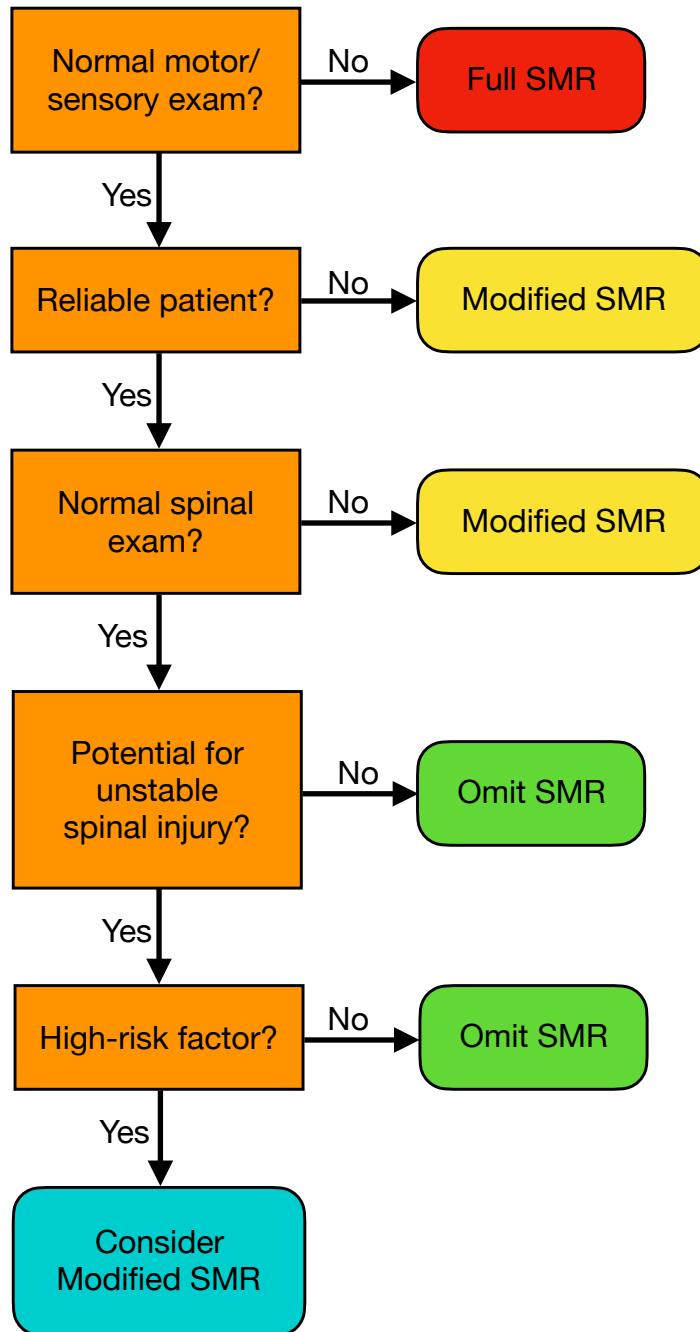


# SPINAL INJURY ASSESSMENT



## CRITICAL INFORMATION

- See GPC 13, Spinal Motion Immobilization for full and modified SMR procedure, and pediatric/pregnancy considerations
- **Motor exam:**
  - Wrist/finger extension
  - Finger abduction
  - Plantar and dorsiflexion of both feet
- **Sensory exam:**
  - Check for abnormal sensation in all extremities
- **Unreliable patient:**
  - ALOC
  - Alcohol or drug impairment
  - Distracting injury
  - Language barrier
- **Spinal assessment:**
  - Palpate entire spine for pain, step off, and swelling
- **High-risk factors:**
  - Age  $\geq 65$  years
  - Meets trauma mechanism of injury
  - Axial load to the head