

Maxillofacial

Oral and maxillofacial surgery (OMS or OMFS) specializes in treating many diseases, injuries, and defects in the head, neck, face, jaws, and the hard and soft tissues of the oral (mouth) and maxillofacial (jaws and face) region. It is an internationally recognized surgical specialty. In countries such as the UK and most of Europe, it is recognized as both a specialty of medicine, and as such a medical degree or both a degree in medicine and dentistry is compulsory. In almost every other region including the United States, Canada, (all of North America, Central America, and South America), Australia, New Zealand, India, and all Asian countries, as well as all of Scandinavia (Sweden, Finland, Denmark, Norway) OMS is a recognized specialty of dentistry. All countries outside of the UK and Central Europe around the world hold that obtaining a medical degree for the specialty of oral and maxillofacial surgery is optional but not required.

[Neck extension](#) is likely to be relatively safe in injuries that are stable in [flexion](#) and [extension](#), such as [odontoid fracture type II](#) and [cervical spine fractures](#) between C5 and C7. Head [rotation](#) is likely to be relatively safe in fractures below [C4](#), as well as [cervical vertebral body](#) fractures, and [laminar](#) fractures without [disc](#) disruption. Early dialogue with the neurosurgical team remains a central tenet of the safe management of patients with combined [maxillofacial](#) and [cervical spine injury](#) ¹⁾

¹⁾

Pepper T, Spiers H, Weller A, Schilling C. Intraoperative [Positioning](#) in [Maxillofacial](#) Trauma Patients With [Cervical Spine Injury](#) - Is It Safe? Radiological [Simulation](#) in a Healthy Volunteer. Craniomaxillofac Trauma Reconstr. 2022 Dec;15(4):312-317. doi: 10.1177/19433875211053091. Epub 2022 Jan 3. PMID: 36387322; PMCID: PMC9647385.

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