

Neck extension

Neck extension usually aggravates **pain** when **cervical disc disease** is present (a minority of patients instead exhibit pain with **cervical flexion**).

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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