TRAUMA PATIENT

assess conscious state

AWAKE & COOPERATIVE

Apply Canadian C spine or NEXUS criteria if appropriate and trained

Patients who pass this stage will not require imaging of the C-spine, but may require transport for treatment of other injuries

if clinical suspicion of isolated C-cpine injury, allow patient to determine ‘position of comfort’ & offer soft collar

BASIC EMS ONLY
Consider airway protection, transport in left lateral position without hard collar or supine if airway OK

DECREASED or UNCONSCIOUS

Consider C-collar & rigid board only if required to facilitate extrication

Extricate where possible onto a vac mat with addition of pelvic binder if clinically indicated.
Splint to skin. Minimal handling. Use scoop stretcher rather than log roll on/off extrication board

determine available EMS skill mix & transport options

ADVANCED EMS
Consider intubation if necessary
Transport protected airway supine
Immobilise entire spine with vac mat
Head blocks or soft collar to minimise subsequent head movement in transit