



Handlebar Injuries in Children



Handlebar injuries in children can cause significant intra-abdominal & retroperitoneal injury

Children with intra-abdominal injury may present with normal physiology and/or without visible abdominal wall injury

- Examination should be by a clinician experienced/trained to evaluate abdominal trauma in children
- Monitor vital signs using an age appropriate chart
- Treat the pain
- Listen to parental concerns
- Take trauma bloods including amylase/lipase

- **Have a very low threshold for CT imaging**

Bowel injury may not show up on the initial CT scan

- Have early discussions with your local paediatric major trauma centre if significant injury is suspected or identified, as per local pathways

Have a low threshold for admission for observation*



Scan here for more information.

For Safety Alerts and RCEM issued Safety Flashes see:

<https://rcem.ac.uk/safety-3/>