

# SKAGIT COUNTY SPINAL ASSESSMENT ALGORITHM

Potentially concerning or uncertain MOI

## 1. Evaluable

- Calm, alert, cooperative
- Normal mental status
- No language barrier

## 2. No intoxication

- No clinical signs of drugs or alcohol
- No ataxia
- No slurred speech
- No loss of coordination

## 3. No distracting injury

## 4. Clear physical exam

- No new numbness or weakness
- Normal neuro exam
  - Equal strength flexion and extension in all 4 limbs
    - If injuries preclude foot/wrist flexion/extension, use great toe flexion/extension and spreading fingers against resistance
  - Equal differentiation of sharp/soft sensation in all 4 limbs
- No tenderness on palpation of all spinal vertebrae

## 5. No pain on range of motion

- Head rotation side to side
- Flexion/extension of head