

CODE: N7
Question: Neuro Anaesthesia Type: Elective/emergent/consultant Author: Dr. L. Brownell

Opening Scenario:
22 year old in ER. While drunk, dove into shallow end of swimming pool. Verbally abusive, weak arms and legs. BP 70 systolic. How would you manage this patient in ER?

Major points of additional information to be provided to the candidate, e.g., hx, px, labs, x-ray, consults:
Collateral history - previously healthy. Abrasions forehead and nose. Some neck pain. No other injuries. No movement or sensation in legs. Weak arms, becoming weaker. BP 70/40 HR 60 RR 24

Major decision points (major decision points or options which must be recognized by the candidate)
Recognize C-spine injury, likely spinal shock. Treat shock. Trauma - look for other injuries. Stabilize C-spine.

Any followup information required to lead to the end of the question
Patient uncooperative. Now complains of shortness of breath

Additional information:
SpO₂ 93 - 5l min nasal prongs. RR 30. Lateral neck x-ray. Fracture C6-Fracture C7

Critical features to be included i.e. the *must* have to pass the question or to be considered *completely unacceptable*
Recognize and treat fractured C-spine, spinal shock. Protect C-spine. Recognize airway problem and secure airway appropriately.

Ref:RCEXAMS2.NOV.94
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