



Queensland
Trauma Education

TRAUMA AND THE OLDER PERSON

Minor pelvic trauma

Case discussion

Participant resource kit

CSDS



Clinical Skills Development Service



Queensland Trauma Education

The resources developed for Queensland Trauma Education are designed for use in any Queensland Health facility that cares for patients who have been injured as a result of trauma. Each resource can be modified by the facilitator and scaled to the learners needs as well as the environment in which the education is being delivered, from tertiary to rural and remote facilities.

Developed by

Dr Frances Williamson, Staff Specialist Emergency Physician – Metro North Health
Kimberly Ballinger, Simulation Educator – Clinical Skills Development Service

Reviewed by

Education Working Group, Statewide Trauma Clinical Network - Clinical Excellence
Queensland

Queensland Trauma Education

Trauma and the Older Person – Minor pelvic trauma: Case discussion – Participant resource kit

Version 1.0

Published by the State of Queensland (Clinical Skills Development Service), 2021



This document is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 Australia licence. To view a copy of this licence, visit <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0/au>.

© State of Queensland (Metro North Hospital and Health Service through the Clinical Skills Development Service) 2021

You are free to copy, communicate, and adapt the work, as long as you attribute the Metro North Hospital and Health Service through the Clinical Skills Development Service. For more information, please contact Clinical Skills Development Service, Royal Brisbane and Women’s Hospital, Herston, Queensland +61 3646 6500, CSDS-Admin@csds.qld.edu.au.

An electronic version of this document is available via csds.qld.edu.au/qte

Disclaimer: The content presented in this publication is distributed by the Queensland Government as an information source only. The State of Queensland makes no statements, representations or warranties about the accuracy, completeness or reliability of any information contained in this publication. The State of Queensland disclaims all responsibility and all liability (including without limitation for liability in negligence) for all expenses, losses, damages and costs you might incur as a result of the information being inaccurate or incomplete in any way, and for any reason reliance was placed on such information.

About this training resource kit

This resource kit provides healthcare workers with the knowledge to assess and manage a geriatric patient with low velocity pelvic trauma with multisystem injury found upon further imaging.

National Safety and Quality Health Service (NSQHS) Standards



Learning objectives

By the end of this session the participant will be able to:

- Recognise the high incidence of low velocity trauma in elderly.
- Consider multi-factorial aetiology of presentations.
- Recognise elderly presentations may differ to younger population.
- Understand the injury pattern can be significant despite simple mechanism.
- Identify the challenges associated with clinical assessment in elderly trauma.

Overview of pelvic trauma

Low mechanism trauma can result in significant injury profile in the geriatric population. Pelvic injuries in the older population have a significant morbidity and mortality associated with overall decreased quality of life following this presentation.^{1, 2}

30% of pelvic fractures occur following a low fall in the elderly population, which increases to 50% in the octogenarian group.³

Further reading

Pelvic ring injury in the elderly: Fragile patients with substantial mortality rates and long-term physical impairment	
Publication	PLOS One
Link	https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0216809

Closed pelvic fractures: characteristics and outcomes in older patients admitted to medical and geriatric wards	
Publication	Postgraduate Medical Journal 2000
Link	https://doi.org/10.1136/pmj.76.900.646

Survivorship and Severe Complications Are Worse for Octogenarians and Elderly Patients with Pelvis Fractures as Compared to Adults: Data from the National Trauma Data Bank	
Publication	Journal of Osteoporosis 2012
Link	https://doi.org/10.1155/2012/475739

Acronyms and abbreviations

Term	Definition
Hb	haemoglobin
HDU	high dependency unit
ICU	intensive care unit
IR	interventional radiology
OT	operating theatre
EFAST	extended focussed abdominal sonography in trauma
Haemostatic resuscitation	balanced transfusion to provide clotting factors, red cells and volume for the acutely bleeding patient

References

1. Banierink H, Ten Duis K, de Vries R, et al. Pelvic ring injury in the elderly: Fragile patients with substantial mortality rates and long-term physical impairment. *PLoS One*. 2019;14(5):e0216809. Published 2019 May 28. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0216809>
1. Morris RO, Sonibare A, Green DJ, et al. Closed pelvic fractures: characteristics and outcomes in older patients admitted to medical and geriatric wards. *Postgraduate Medical Journal* 2000;76:646-650. <https://doi.org/10.1136/pmj.76.900.646>
2. Matityahu A, Elson J, Morshed S, Marmor M. Survivorship and Severe Complications Are Worse for Octogenarians and Elderly Patients with Pelvis Fractures as Compared to Adults: Data from the National Trauma Data Bank. *Journal of Osteoporosis*, vol. 2012, Article ID 475739, 10 pages, 2012. <https://doi.org/10.1155/2012/475739>

Share your feedback

Please complete our survey to help make Queensland Trauma Education better.

The survey should take no more than 5 minutes to complete.

Scan the QR code or visit:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/3FWL3ZD>



**Queensland
Trauma Education**

Queensland Trauma Education

Trauma and the Older Person – Minor pelvic trauma: Case discussion – Participant resource kit

Published by the State of Queensland (Clinical Skills Development Service), 2021

Visit csds.qld.edu.au/qte

Email CSDS-Admin@health.qld.gov.au

Phone [+61 7 3646 6500](tel:+61736466500)

