

When Do I Need To X-Ray The Spine and Extremities and How Do I Justify It?

Objectives: Provide an evidence based approach in determining who should be X-rayed before initiating care. Actual case presentations (including in-depth discussions of the radiographic findings) will be used to better understand the process.

Hour 0-1 : Review the pros and cons of evidence based guidelines. Discuss the implementation of evidence based guidelines throughout the health care delivery system. Discuss guidelines to insure that the standard of care is met.

Hour 1-4 : Review of evidence based approach in determining which patients presenting with cervical spine complaints should be X-rayed before initiating care. Case presentations will be used to provide a real life atmosphere. Discussion will include radiographic signs, associated conditions, clinical impact, need for additional studies if applicable, and impact on prognosis both short term and long term.

Hour 5-6 : Review of evidence based approach in determining which patients presenting with thoracic or lumbopelvic spine complaints should be X-rayed before initiating care. Case presentations will be used to provide a real life atmosphere. Discussion will include radiographic signs, associated conditions, clinical impact, need for additional studies if applicable, and impact on prognosis both short term and long term.

This course provides an evidence based approach to determine who needs to be X-ray and who can be treated without having to take X-rays. Real life examples will be used to learn how to properly identify the findings that would indicate the need for X-ray to meet the standard of care. Radiographs for each case will be reviewed, as well. Importantly, hundreds of references are provided to justify the decision.

Presented by: James Carter, D.C., D.A.C.B.R. Learning Objectives

1. To understand the meaning of evidence based guidelines.
2. To recognize how to identify indicators for spinal X-ray to be able to meet the standard of care.
3. To use real life examples to learn how to effectively use the guidelines.
4. To review radiographic findings for example cases.
5. To provide references to justify the need for X-ray.