

**Injury Description/Documentation Tips for Coding AIS 2005**

***Tips for Documentation of Injury Descripton for Coding in AIS 05***

| <b>Injury</b>                        | <b>Injury Descriptions that effect AIS severity assignment</b>   |                         |                    |               | <b>AIS severity range</b> |
|--------------------------------------|--|-------------------------|--------------------|---------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Head and Neck ISS Body Region</b> | Description 1 or   | Description 2 or        | Description 3 or   | Description 4 | Lowest → Highest          |
| CHI (closed head Injury)             | This term is seen within the AIS as a non specific term and cannot be used to calculate ISS unless this injury description is being used synonomously with concussion, then it is codeable as concussion |                         |                    |               |                           |
| TBI (Traumatic Brain Injury)         | This term is seen within the AIS as a non specific cannot be used to calculate ISS unless this injury description is being used synonomously with concussion, then it is codeable as concussion          |                         |                    |               |                           |
| <i>Concussion</i>                    |  |                         |                    |               |                           |
|                                      | Documentation of the length of LOC may increase ISS - AIS severity is adjusted with the presence of LOC and if it is > 1 hour  | LOC< I hour             | LOC 1-6 hours      |               | 1→ 3                      |
| <b>Vessel injuries</b>               |  |                         |                    |               |                           |
| Intracranial vessels                 | laceration   | thrombosis or occlusion | traumatic aneurysm | bilateral     | 3→ 6                      |
| <i>SDH/EDH</i>                       |  |                         |                    |               |                           |
| Tiny                                 | <0.6 cm thick  |                         |                    | SDH or EDH    | 2→ 3                      |
| Small/Moderate                       | 0.6- 1cm thick   | <=50cc                  | bilateral          | SDH or EDH    | 4→ 5                      |
| Large/massive/ extensive             | > 1 cm thick   | >50cc                   |                    |               | 5→ 5                      |
| <i>Intracerebral Hemorrhage</i>      |  |                         |                    |               |                           |
| Tiny                                 | <1 cm diameter   | coma> 6 hours           |                    |               | 2→ 4                      |
| Small                                | 1-4 cm diameter  | <=30cc                  | coma> 6 hours      | bilateral     | 3→ 5                      |
| Large                                | >4 cm  | >30cc                   | bilateral          |               | 5→ 5                      |

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| <i>Cerebral Contusions</i>                                       |  |  |                                  |                           |
| Tiny   | <1 cm diameter   |  |                                  | 2→ 2                      |
| Small  | 1-4 cm diameter  | <=30cc                                     | Midline shift <=5mm              | 3→ 3                      |
| Large  | 2-4cm diameter   | 30-50cc                                    | Midline shift >5mm               | 4→ 4                      |
| Extensive  |  | >50cc                                      |                                  | 5→ 5                      |
| <i>Diffuse Anoxal Injury</i>                                     |  |  |                                  |                           |
|  | Coma >6 hours or fatal within 6 hrs                            | confined to white matter                   | Involving corpus callosum        | 4→ 5                      |
| <i>Skull Fracture</i>  |  |  |                                  |                           |
| Vault-simple   | Simple closed  |  |                                  | 2→ 2                      |
| Valut- comminuted  | compound/ displaced  | depressed <=2 cm                           |                                  | 3→ 3                      |
| Vault-complex  | open, loss brain tissue,torn dura                              |  |                                  | 4→ 4                      |
| Vault - massive  | Large  | depressed >2 cm                            |                                  | 4→ 4                      |
| BSF  | CSF leak   |  |                                  | 3→ 3                      |
| BSF-complex  | open, loss brain tissue  | comminuted or hinge                        |                                  | 4→ 4                      |
| <b>Neck</b>  |  |  |                                  |                           |
| Vessel injuries  | ≤ 20 % blood loss by volume or minor                           | > 20 % blood loss by volume or transection | neurological deficit             | 1→ 5                      |
| Organ Injury-contusions  | minor  | major                                      |                                  | 2→ 3                      |
| Organ Injury-laceration  | no perforation or partial thickness                            | perforation or full thickness              | avulsion or transection or crush | 2→ 5                      |
| Ingestion injuries causing esophageal injury above sternal notch | Partial thickness necrosis                                     | Full thickness necrosis                    |                                  | 3→ 4                      |
| <b>Face</b>  |  |  |                                  |                           |
| Fractures  | Displacement must be significant to increase score             |  |                                  | 1→ 2                      |
| Lefort III and Panfacial fractures                               | ≤ 20 % blood loss by volume or minor                           | > 20 % blood loss by volume or transection |                                  | 3→ 4                      |

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| <i>Zygoma Fractures - new descriptors</i>                        |  |                                      |   |                          |                           |
| KN I   | Nondisplaced   |                                      |   |                          | 1→ 1                      |
| KN II  | Displaced Arch   |                                      |   |                          | 1→ 1                      |
| KN III   | Body Unrotated   |                                      |   |                          | 1→ 1                      |
| KN IV/V  | Body Rotated   |                                      |   |                          | 1→ 1                      |
| KN VI  | Complex  |                                      |   |                          | 2→ 2                      |
| <b>Thorax</b>  |  |                                      |   |                          |                           |
| Vessel injuries  |  |                                      |   |                          |                           |
| Thoracic vessel injuries   | intimal tear or no disruption                                  | laceration or perforation            | rupture or transection or blood loss>20 % | bilateral                | 2→ 6                      |
| <i>Internal Organs</i>   |  |                                      |   |                          |                           |
| Organ contusion or hematoma                                      | minor  | major                                | Organ Injury Scale (OIS)                  |                          | 1→ 2                      |
| Organ laceration   | no perforation or partial thickness                            | perforation or full thickness        | avulsion or transection or crush          | Organ Injury Scale (OIS) | 2→ 6                      |
| Ingestion injuries causing esophageal injury below sternal notch | Partial thickness necrosis                                     | Full thickness necrosis              |   |                          | 3→ 4                      |
| <i>Lung Contusion/ Laceration</i>                                |  |                                      |   |                          |                           |
| Minor  | < 1 lobe   | unilateral                           | bilateral                                 |                          | 2→ 3                      |
| Major  | 1 or more lobes, at least one side                             | unilateral                           | bilateral                                 |                          | 3→ 5                      |
| <i>Inhalation Injury</i>   |  |                                      |   |                          |                           |
| Documentation of inhalation injury only                          | absence of carbonaceous deposits                               | absence of erythema                  | absence of bronchorrhea                   |                          | 2→ 2                      |
| Minor  | deposits in proximal distal bronchi                            | Minor erythemia                      |   |                          | 3→ 3                      |
| Moderate   | carbonaceous deposits  | Bronchorrhea, moderate erythemia     |   |                          | 4→ 4                      |
| Severe   | copious deposits   | Bronchorrhea, obstruction, hypoxemia |   |                          | 5→ 5                      |
| More severe  | mucosal sloughing  | necrosis                             | endoluminal obliteration                  |                          | 6→ 6                      |

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| <b>Thoracic Injury</b>                    |  |  |  |                                |                           |
| Hemothorax                                | >1000 cc blood loss  | major  |  |                                | 3→ 4                      |
| Pneumothorax                              | >50% lung collapse documented on x-ray                         | major  | tension  | massive air leak               | 3→ 5                      |
| Hemopneumothorax                          | > 1000cc blood loss  | major  |  |                                | 3→ 4                      |
| Fracture Ribs                             | Flail  | # of ribs  | bilateral  |                                | 1→ 5                      |
| <b>Abdomen</b>                            |  |  |  |                                |                           |
| <b>Vessel injuries</b>                    |  |  |  |                                |                           |
| Abdominal vessel injuries                 | intimal tear or no disruption                                  | laceration or perforation                                  | rupture or transection or blood loss>20 %                            | bilateral                      | 2→ 5                      |
| <b>Internal organs</b>                    |  |  |  |                                |                           |
| Organ contusion or hematoma               | minor  | major  | Organ Injury Scale (OIS)   |                                | 1→ 3                      |
| Organ laceration                          | no perforation or partial thickness; blood loss                | perforation or full thickness; length,size,depth & number. | avulsion or transection or tissue loss or complex or involving hilum | Organ Injury Scale (OIS)       | 2→ 6                      |
| Ingestion injuries causing stomach injury | Partial thickness necrosis                                     | Full thickness necrosis                                    |  |                                | 3→ 4                      |
| <b>Spine</b>                              |  |  |  |                                |                           |
| <b>Plexus Injury</b>                      |  |  |  |                                |                           |
| Brachial Plexus                           | Incomplete injury and contusion or laceration or avulsion      | Complete injury and contusion or laceration or avulsion    | bilateral  |                                | 2→ 4                      |
| Sacral Plexus                             | contusion  | laceration   | avulsion   | single or multiple nerve roots | 2→ 3                      |
| <b>Spinal Cord Injury</b>                 |  |  |  |                                |                           |
| Cord contusion                            | Transient neuro signs or paresthesia                           | Incomplete injury  | Complete injury  |                                | 3→ 6                      |
| Cord laceration                           | Incomplete injury  | Complete injury  |  |                                | 5→ 6                      |
| <b>Compresion Fractures</b>               |  |  |  |                                |                           |
| Vertebral body fractures                  | ≤20 % loss of anterior height                                  | >20 % loss of anterior height                              |  |                                | 2→ 3                      |

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|--|--|---|------------------------------------|------|---|
| <b>Extremities</b>                             |  |   |                                    |      |   |
| <i>Fractures Upper/ Lower</i>                  |  |   |                                    |      |   |
| Fracture other than to pelvis or acetabulum    | Extra-articular  | Open  |                                    |      | 1→ 3  |
|  | Partial articular  | Open  |                                    |      | 1→ 3  |
|  | Complete articular   | Open  |                                    |      | 1→ 3  |
| Shaft fractures                                | Simple or spiral or transverse                                 | Wedge or butterfly segment  | Complex or comminuted or segmental | Open | 2→ 3  |
| <i>Pelvic Fractures</i>                        |  |   |                                    |      |   |
| Stable pelvic fracture                         | Posterior arch is intact Intact                                | Avulsion fracture innominate, or transverse fracture sacrum or coccyx |                                    | Open | 2→ 3  |
| Partially or vertically stable pelvic fracture | Incomplete disruption posterior arch                           | Open Book or unilateral, anterior compression fx of sacrum            |                                    | Open | Blood Loss % by Volume ≤ 20 % or > 20 %<br>3→ 5 |
| Totally unstable pelvic fracture               | Complete disruption posterior arch and pelvic floor            | Vertical shear or pubic rami with sacroiliac fracture/dislocation     |                                    | Open | Blood Loss % by Volume ≤ 20 % or > 20 %<br>4→ 5 |
| <i>Acetabulum</i>                              |  |   |                                    |      |   |
| Partial Articular                              | Involving one column either anterior or posterior              | Tshaped or transverse   |                                    | Open | 2→ 3  |
| Complete Articular                             | Involving both columns   |   |                                    | Open | 2→ 3  |
| <b>External and Other</b>                      |  |   |                                    |      |   |
| Frostbite                                      | 1st degree or superficial                                      | deep or full thickness  |                                    |      | 1→ 3  |
| Burns  | Degree or partial or fullthickness                             | % TBSA effected   |                                    |      | 1→ 6  |
| Asphyxia/suffocation                           | No neurological deficit  | presence of neurological deficit                                      | documentation of cardiac arrest    |      | 3→ 5  |
| Drowinig                                       | No neurological deficit  | presence of neurological deficit                                      | documentation of cardiac arrest    |      | 3→ 5  |
| Electrical injury                              | documentation of muscle necrosis                               | documentation of cardiac arrest                                       |                                    |      | 2→ 5  |
| Hypothermia                                    | temperature on initial presentation                            |   |                                    |      | 1→ 5  |