Canadian CT Head Rule

CT head is only required for minor head injury patients with any one of these findings:

**High Risk (for Neurological Intervention)**

1. GCS score \(< 15\) at 2 hrs after injury
2. Suspected open or depressed skull fracture
3. Any sign of basal skull fracture*
4. Vomiting \(\geq 2\) episodes
5. Age \(\geq 65\) years

**Medium Risk (for Brain Injury on CT)**

6. Amnesia before impact \(\geq 30\) min
7. Dangerous mechanism **(pedestrian, occupant ejected, fall from elevation)**

*Signs of Basal Skull Fracture
- hemotympanum, ‘racoon’ eyes, CSF otorrhea/ rhinorrhea, Battle’s sign

**Dangerous Mechanism
- pedestrian struck by vehicle
- occupant ejected from motor vehicle
- fall from elevation \(\geq 3\) feet or 5 stairs

Rule Not Applicable If:
- Non-trauma cases
- GCS < 13
- Age < 16 years
- Coumadin or bleeding disorder
- Obvious open skull fracture