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