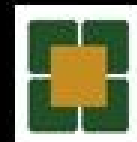


DECISION-MAKING in SPINE TRAUMA

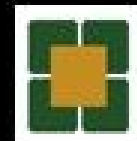
Edward C. Benzel, MD

Cleveland Clinic



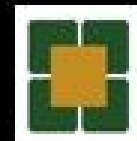
The First Mission

**Establish
the
Primary and Secondary
Diagnoses and Related Pitfalls**



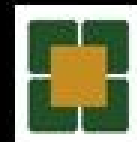
The Injury
The Deficit
The Co-Morbidities
The Potential Medical Complications
The Potential Surgical Complications

The Pitfalls



The Second Mission

**Establish
the
Plan**



DIAGNOSES AND PITFALLS

The Injury

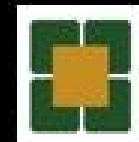
The Deficit

The Co-Morbidities

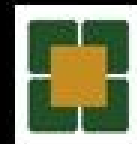
The Potential Medical Complications

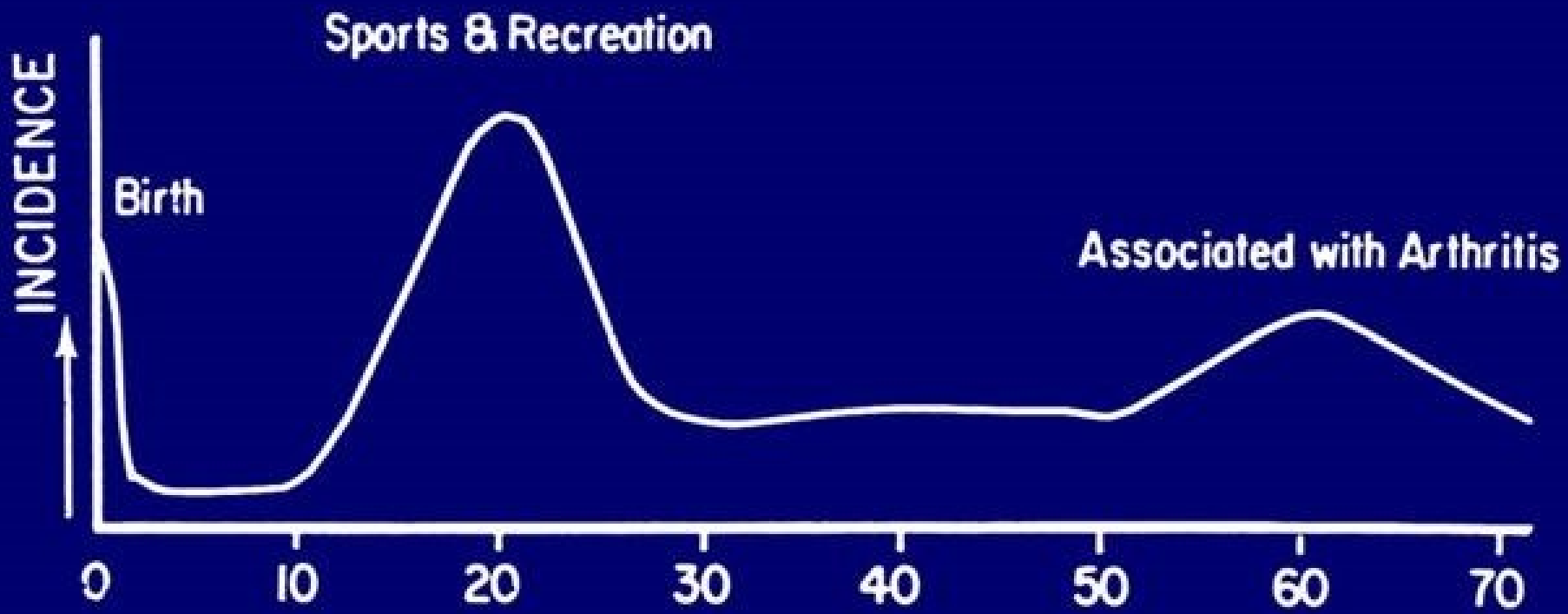
The Potential Surgical Complications

The Pitfalls

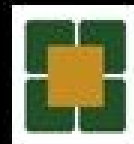
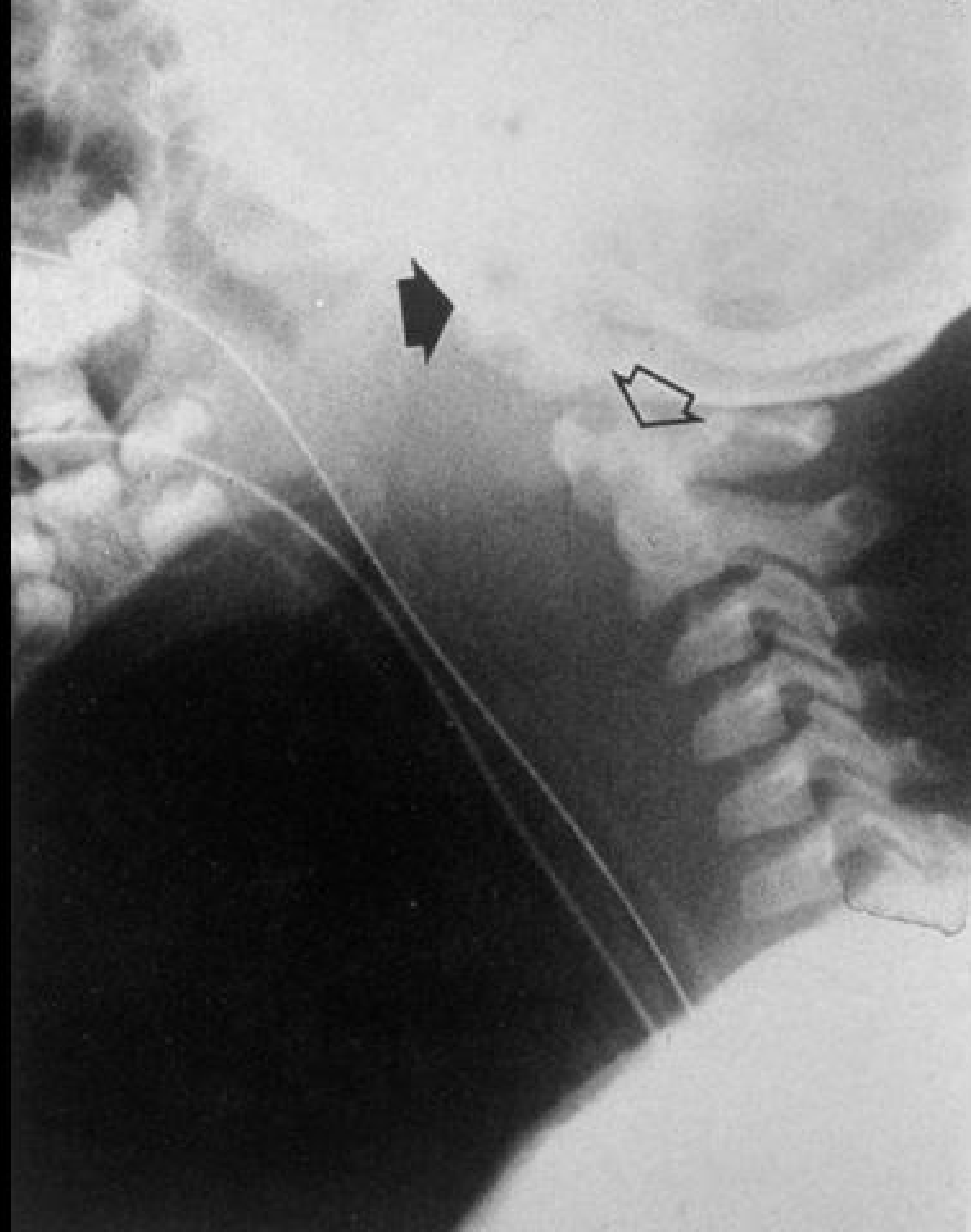


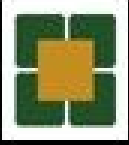
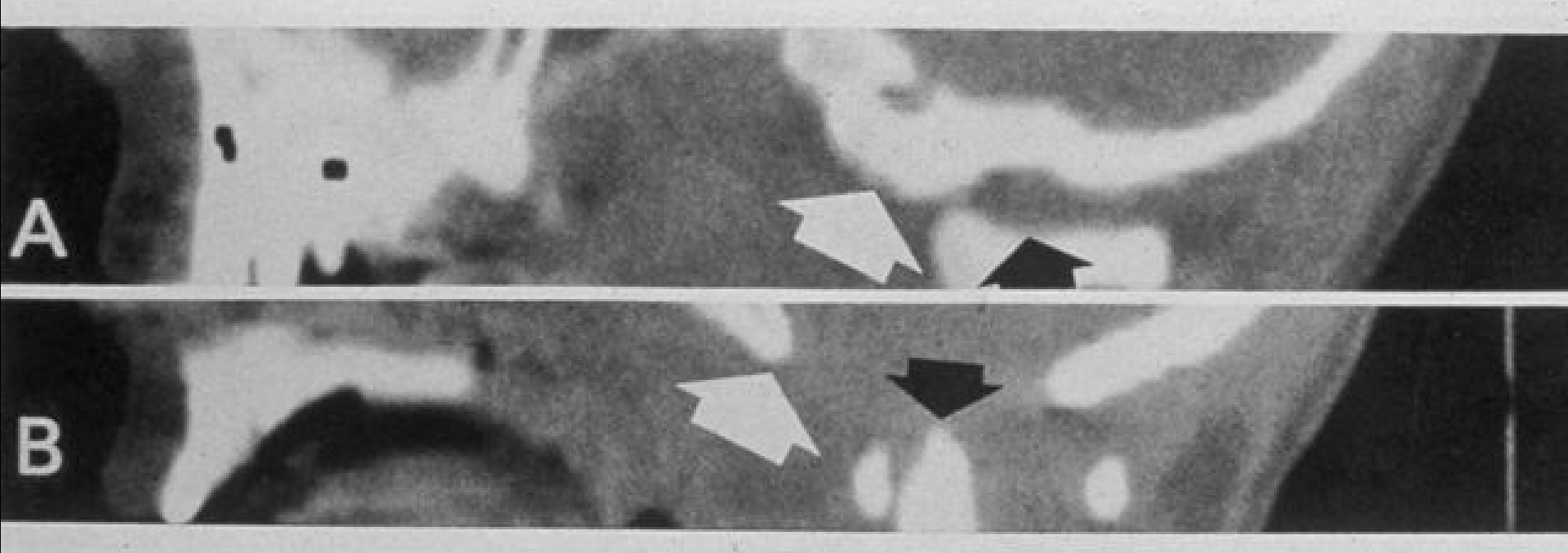
**Let's
Go Back
to the
Very Basics**





AGE RELATED INCIDENCE OF SPINAL CORD TRAUMA



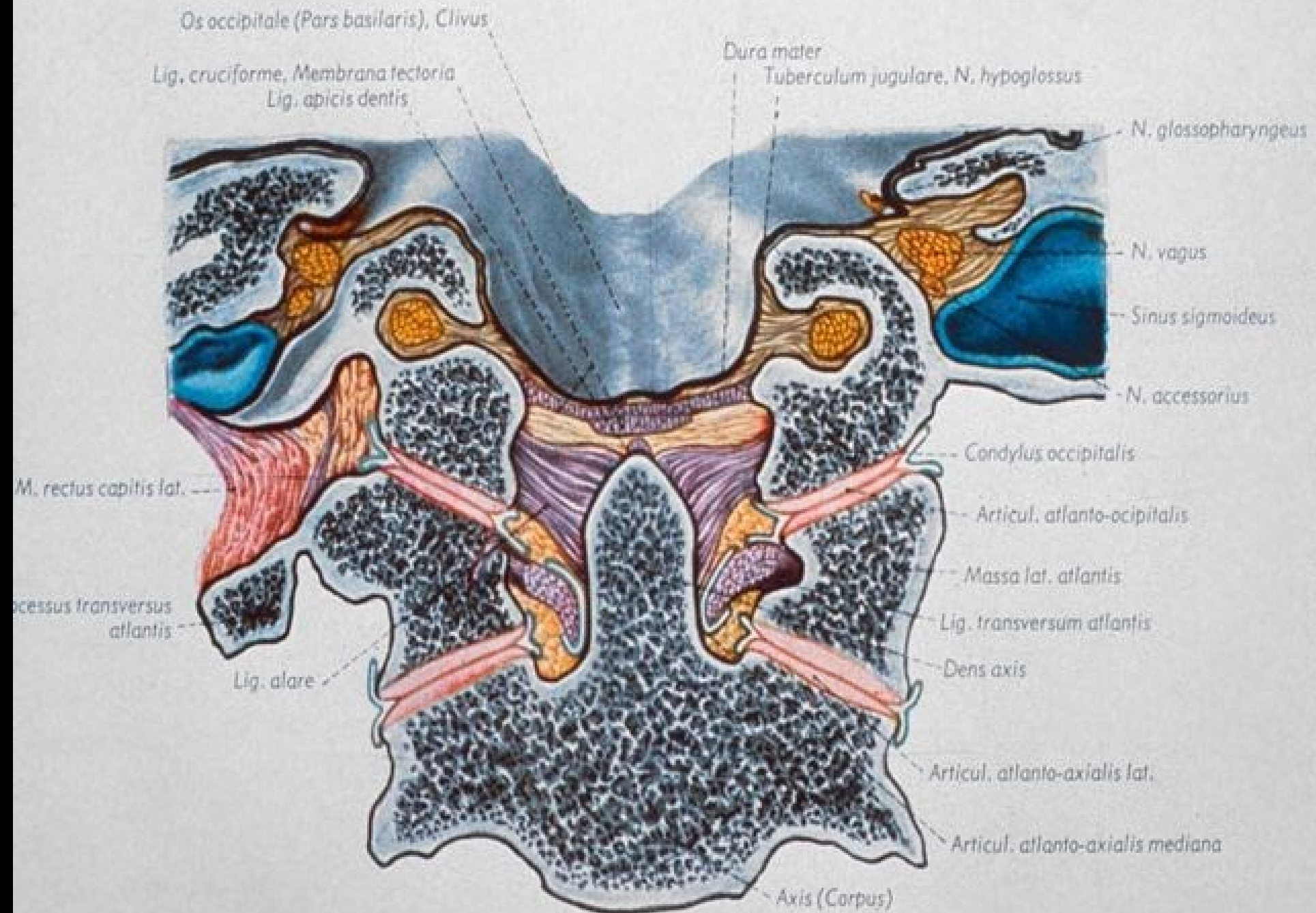




-500016
W/R
ONLY

08:55:22
MA 50
SEC 8

1
L 99
Q NO 7
512
1/2
CF XSPINE
?CENT 54









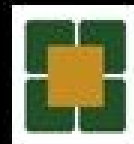
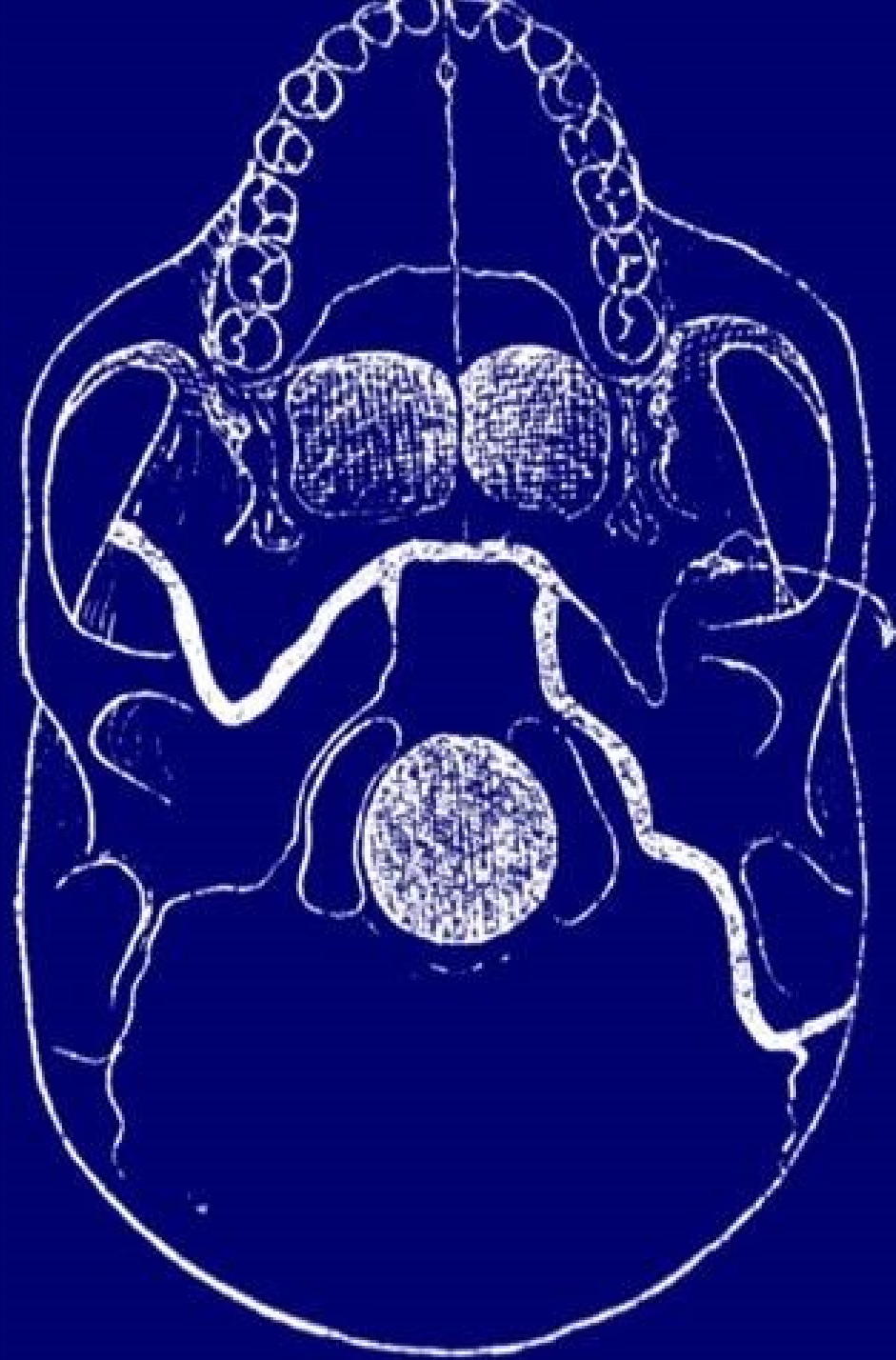
C-1

C-2

C-2

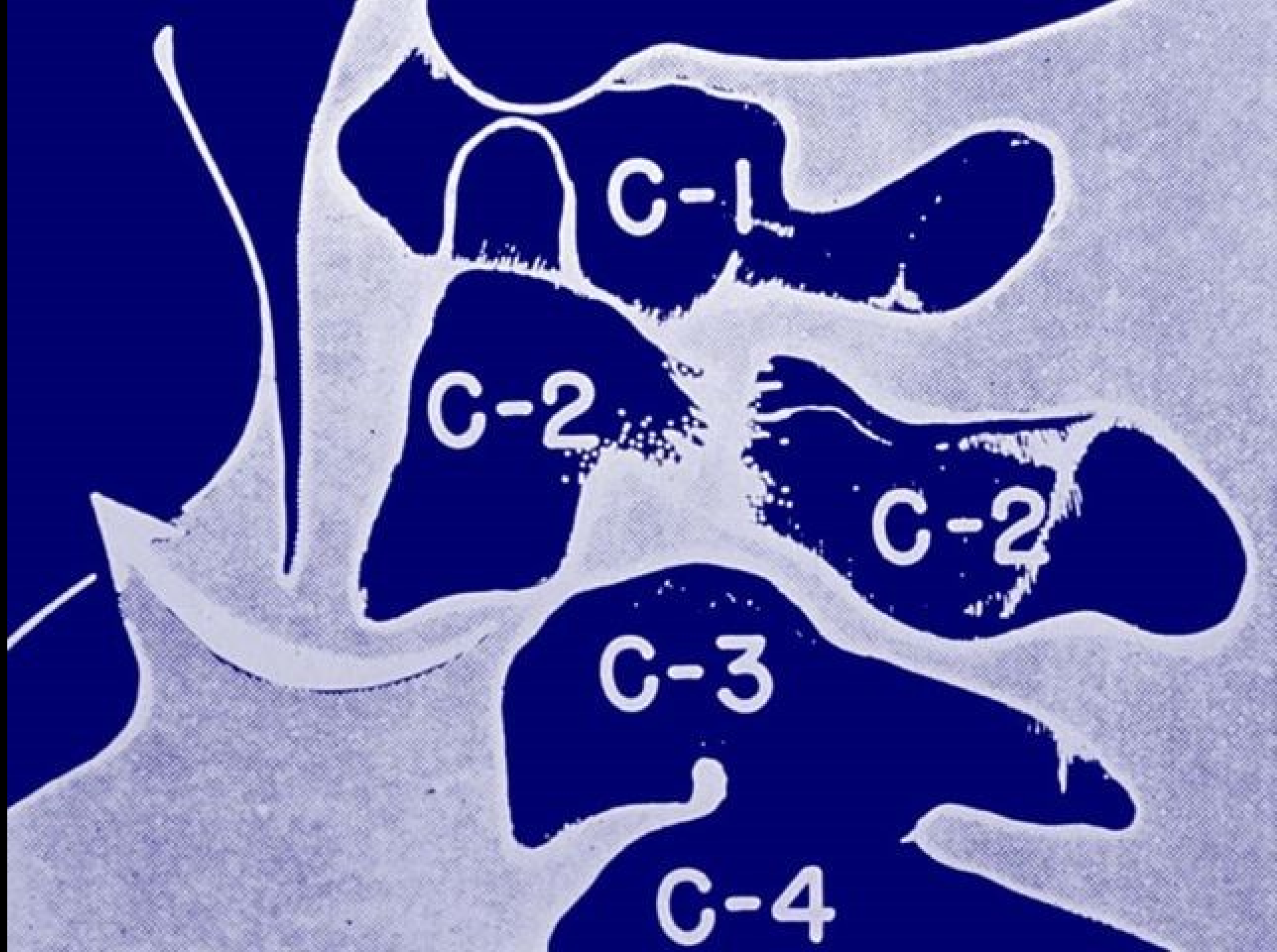
C-3

C-4

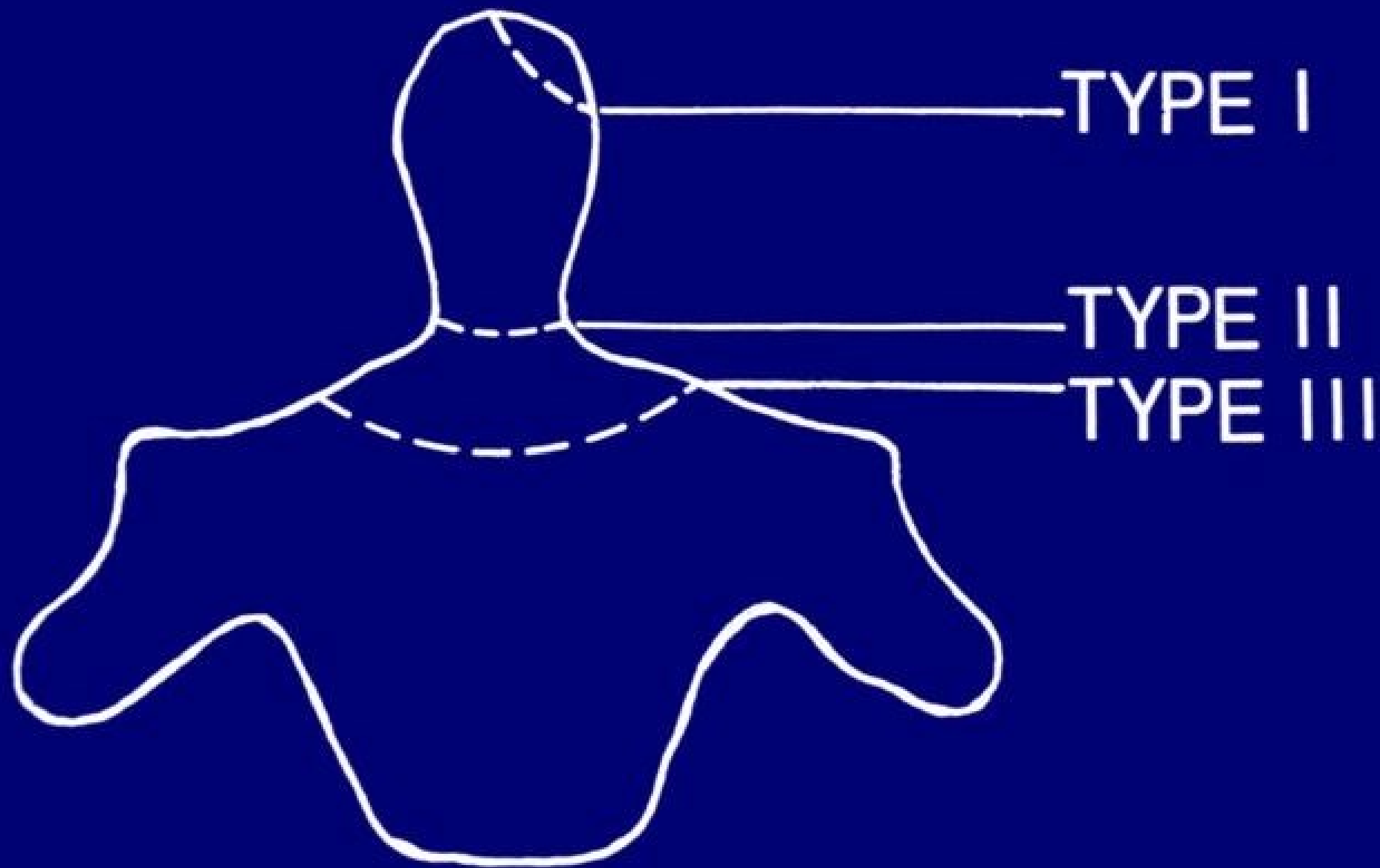


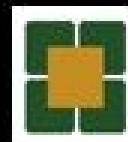


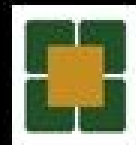
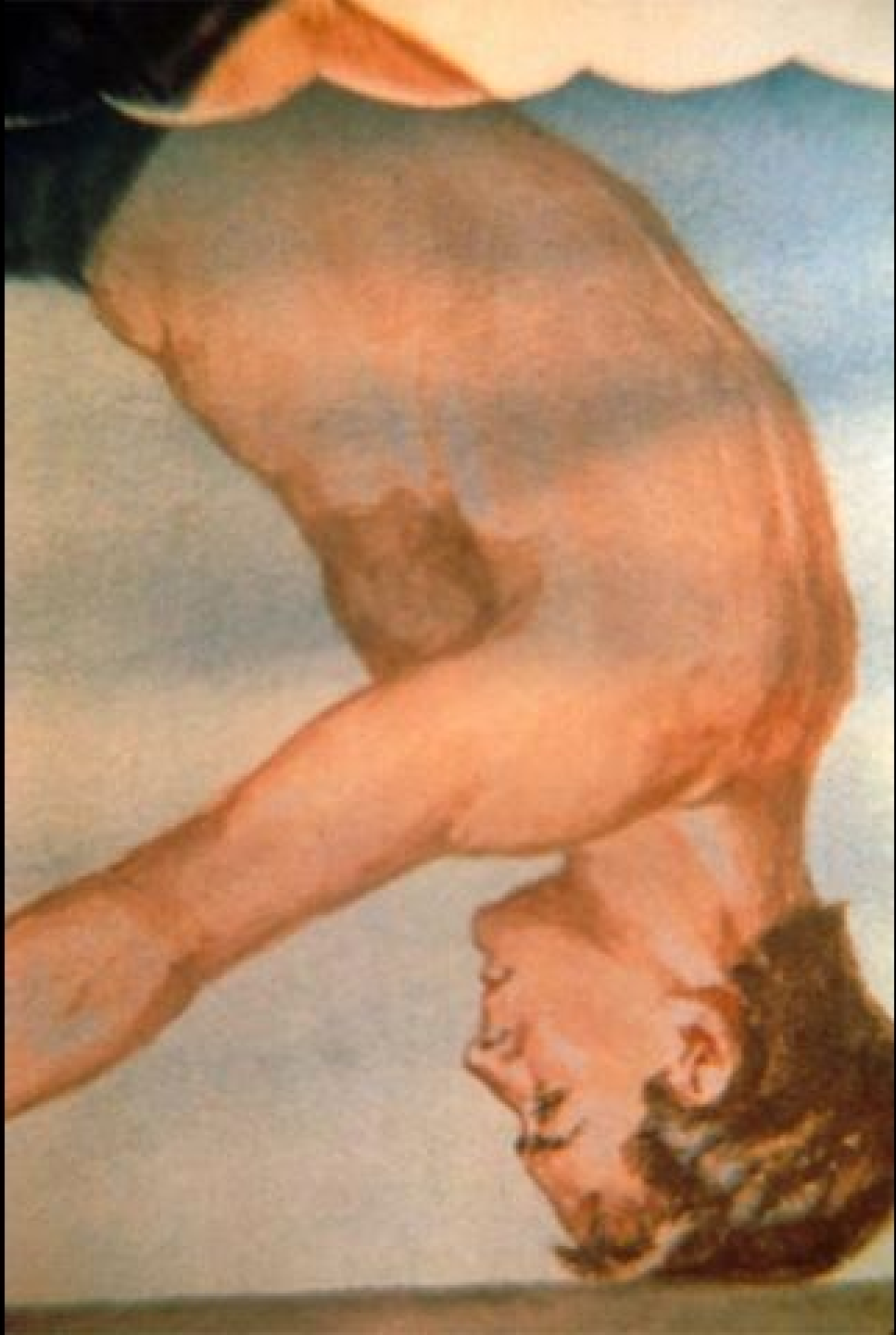


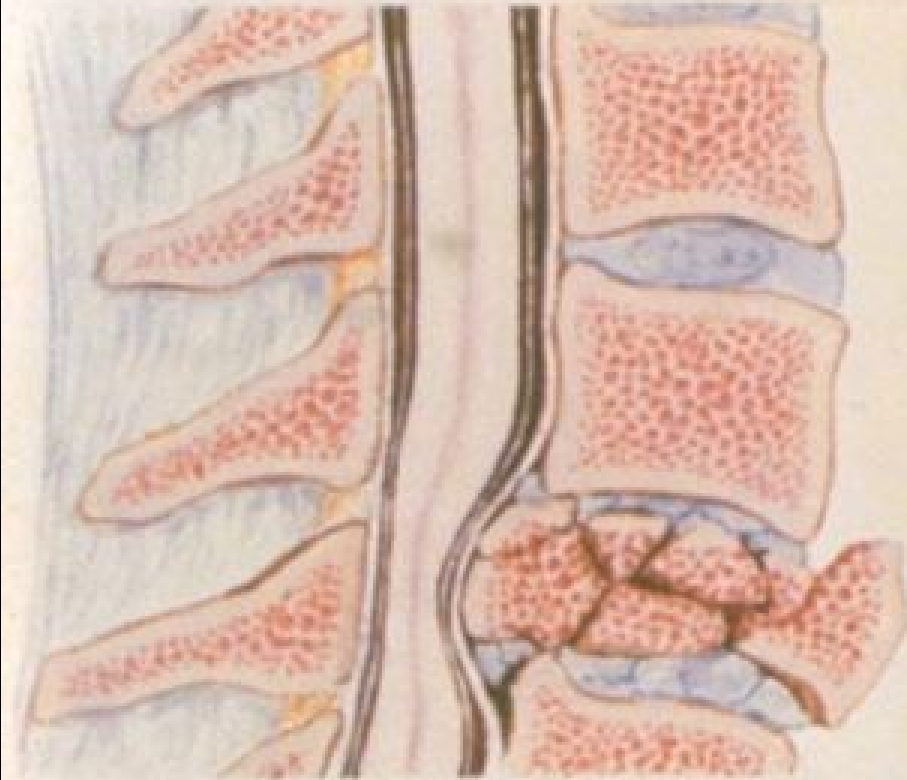








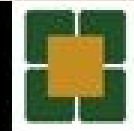




Type IV. "Burst" fracture. Entire vertebral body crushed, with intraspinal bone fragments

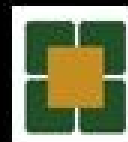


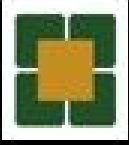
X-ray film: Type IV fracture of C6

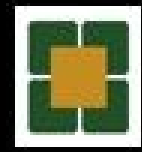
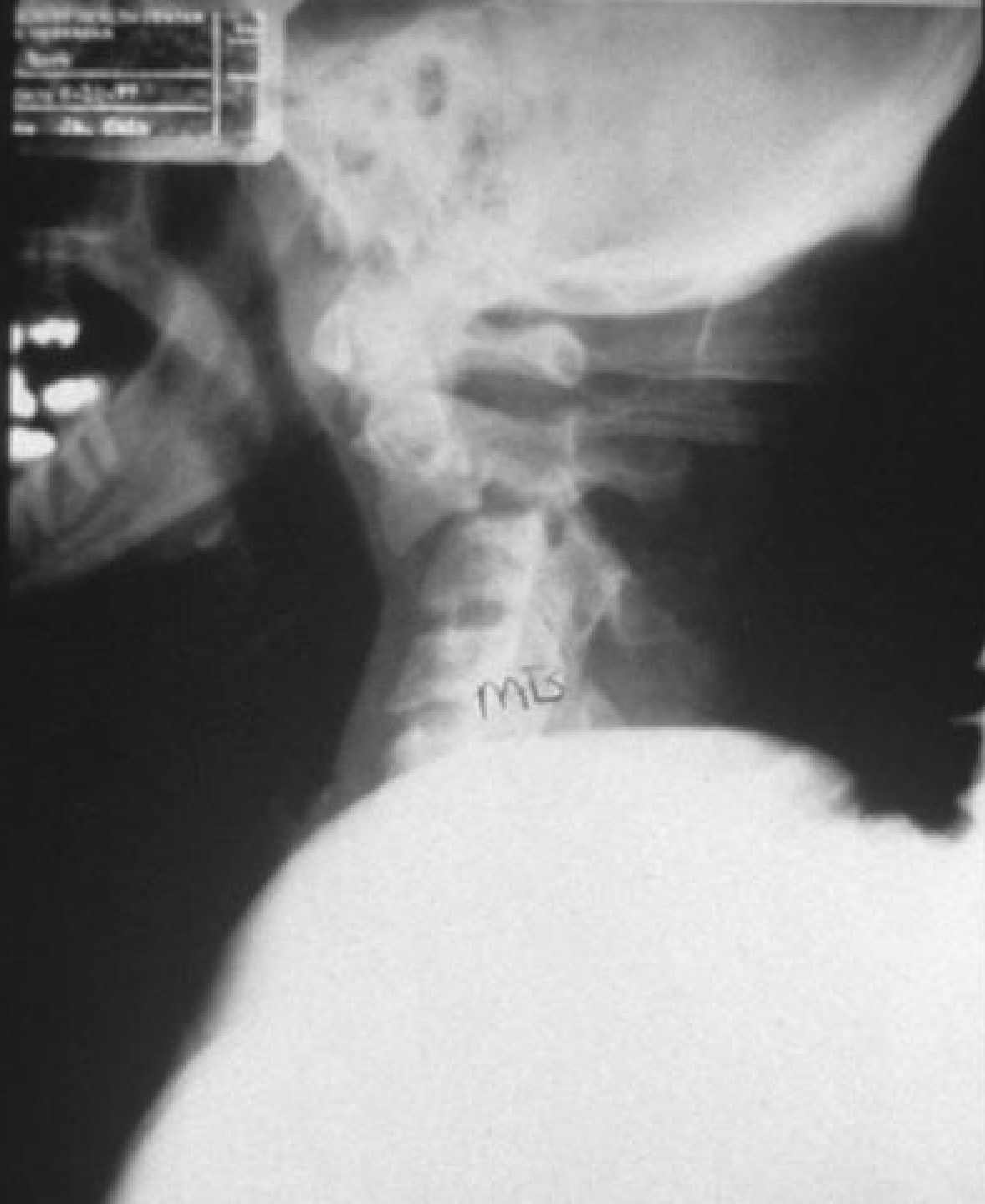




C58
4 2

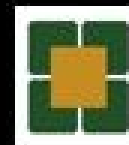


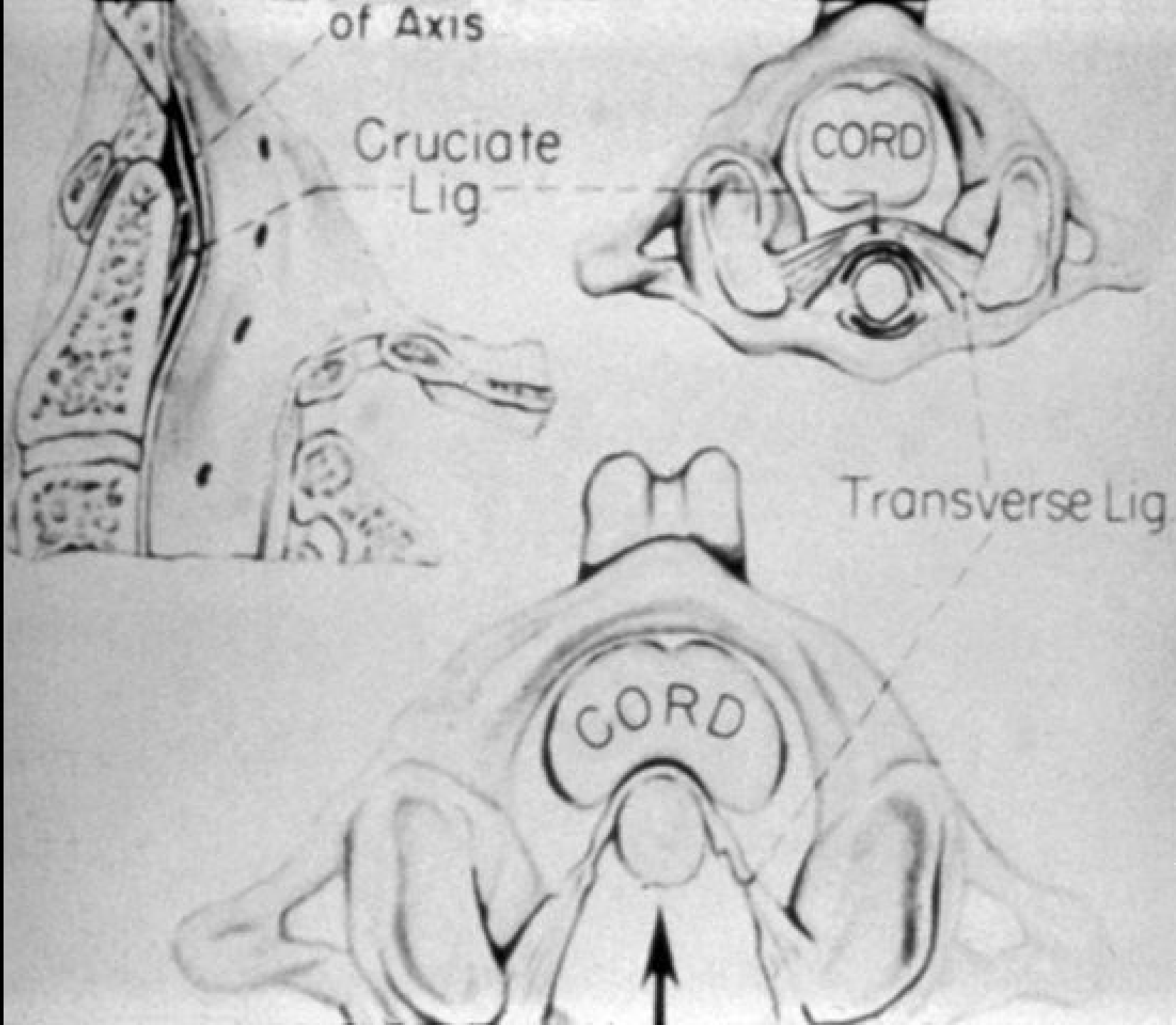


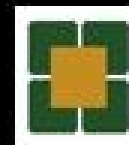






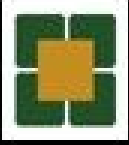


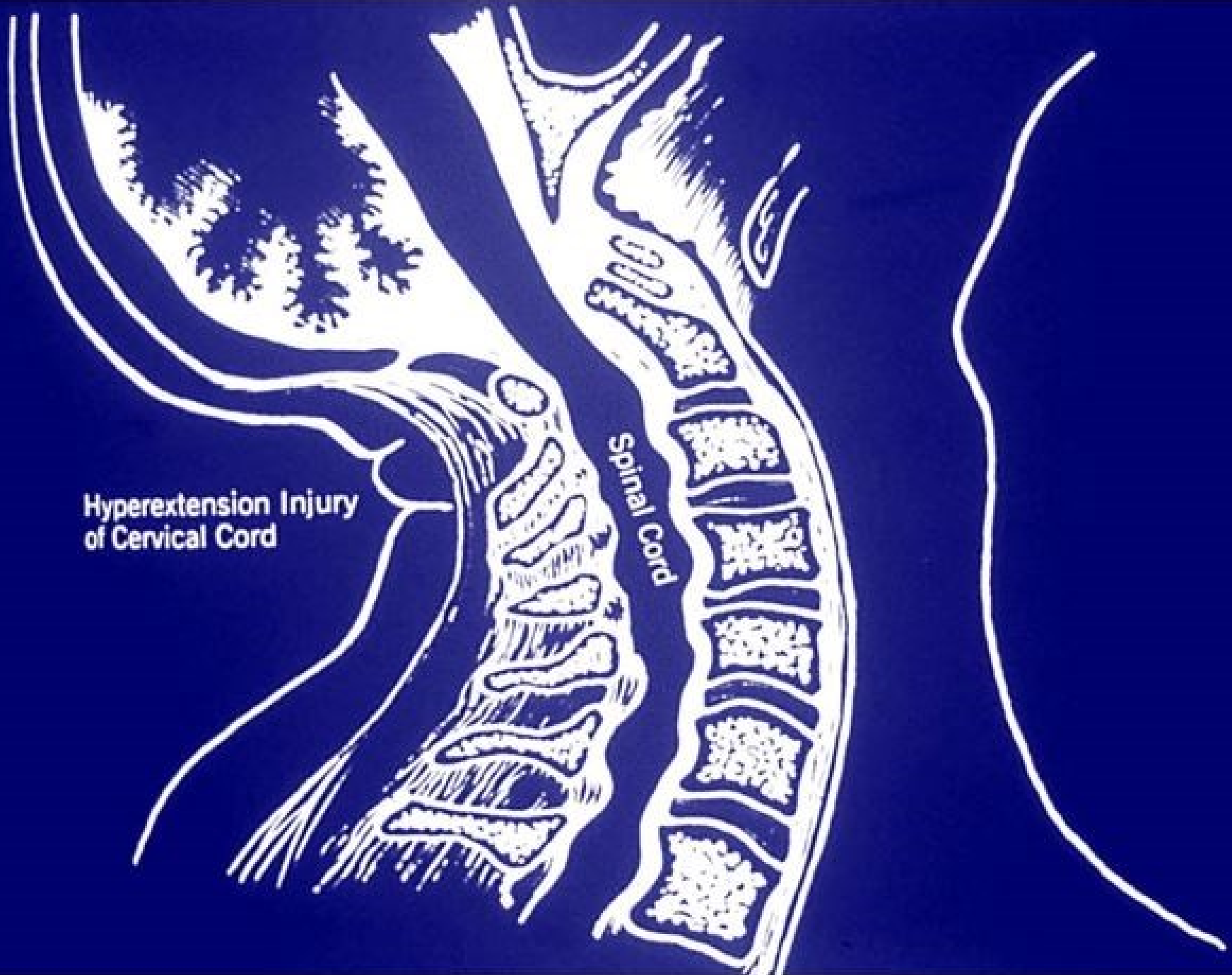






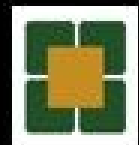
R

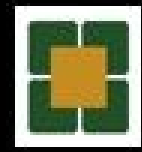
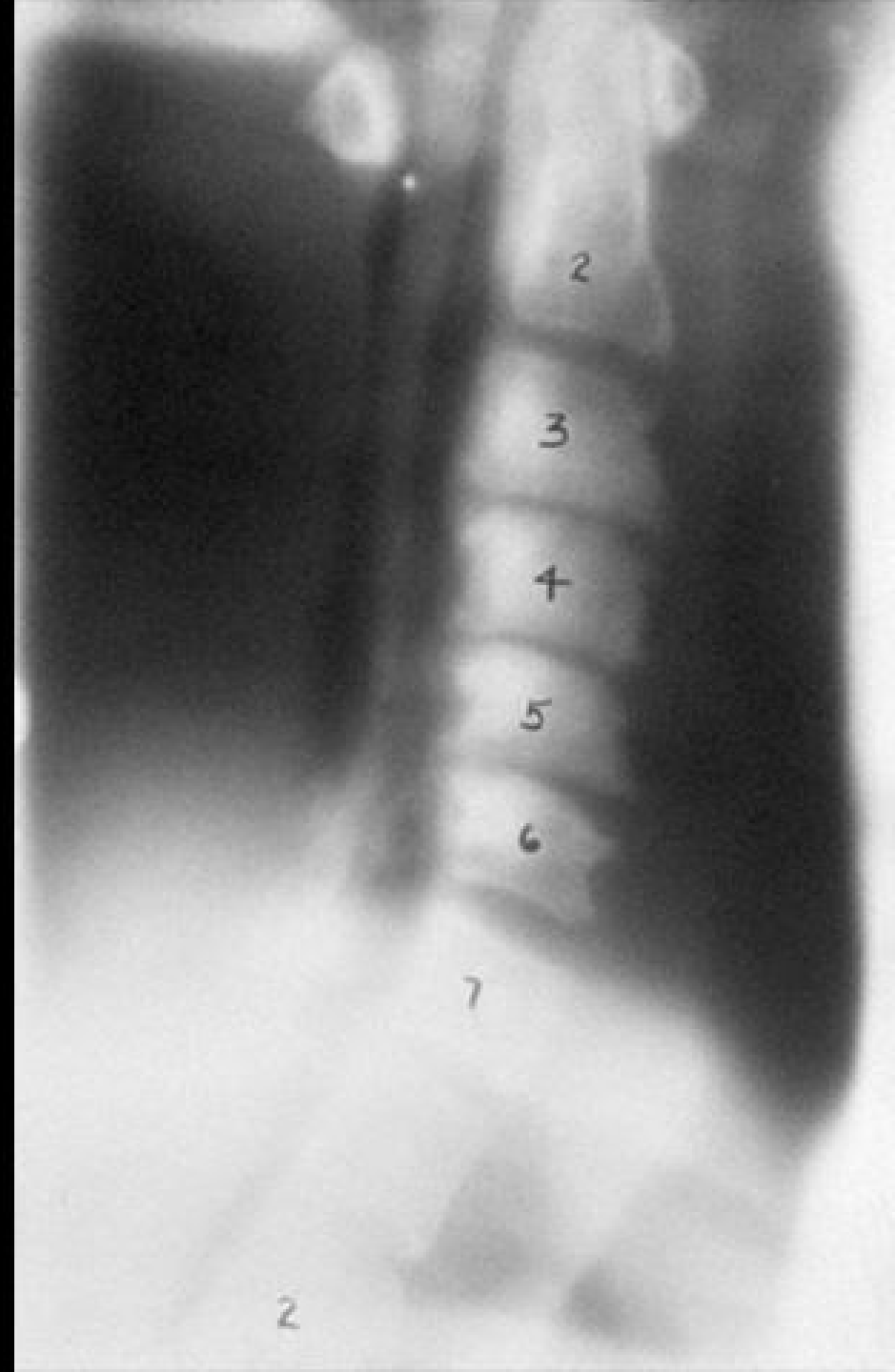


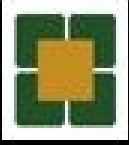
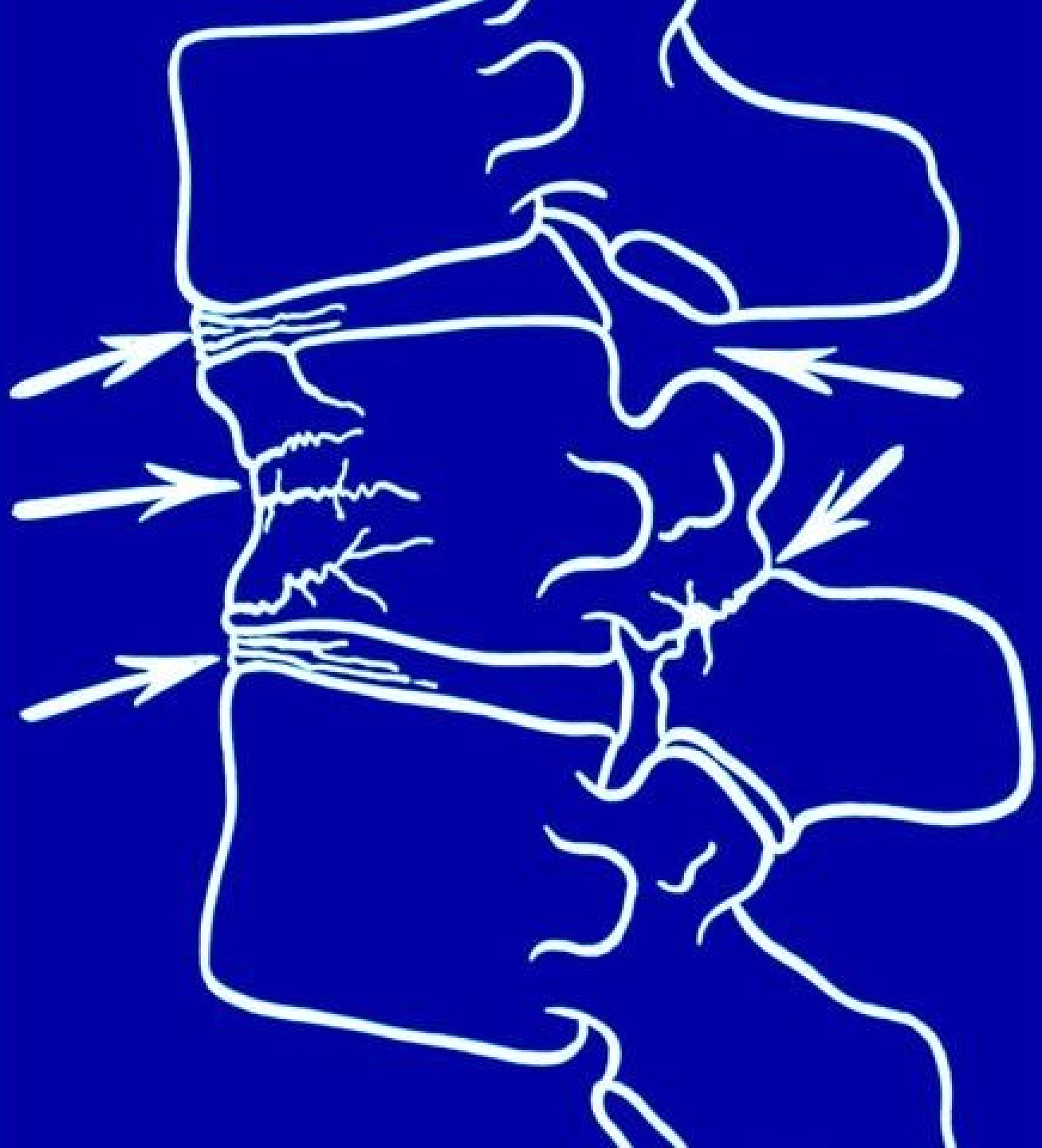


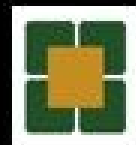
Hyperextension Injury
of Cervical Cord

Spinal Cord









Pain

E X C E P T I O N S

. . . .

V E R Y O L D

. . . .

V E R Y Y O U N G

Motor

MYOTOMES

DELTOIDS C5

BICEPS C5, 6

TRICEPS C6, 7

INTEROSSEI C8

UPPER ABDOMINAL T8, 9

LOWER ABDOMINAL T10-12

HIP FLEXOR L1, 2

QUADRACEPS L3, 4

FOOT DORSIFLEXION L4, 5

FOOT PLANTARFLEXION S1, 2

Sensory

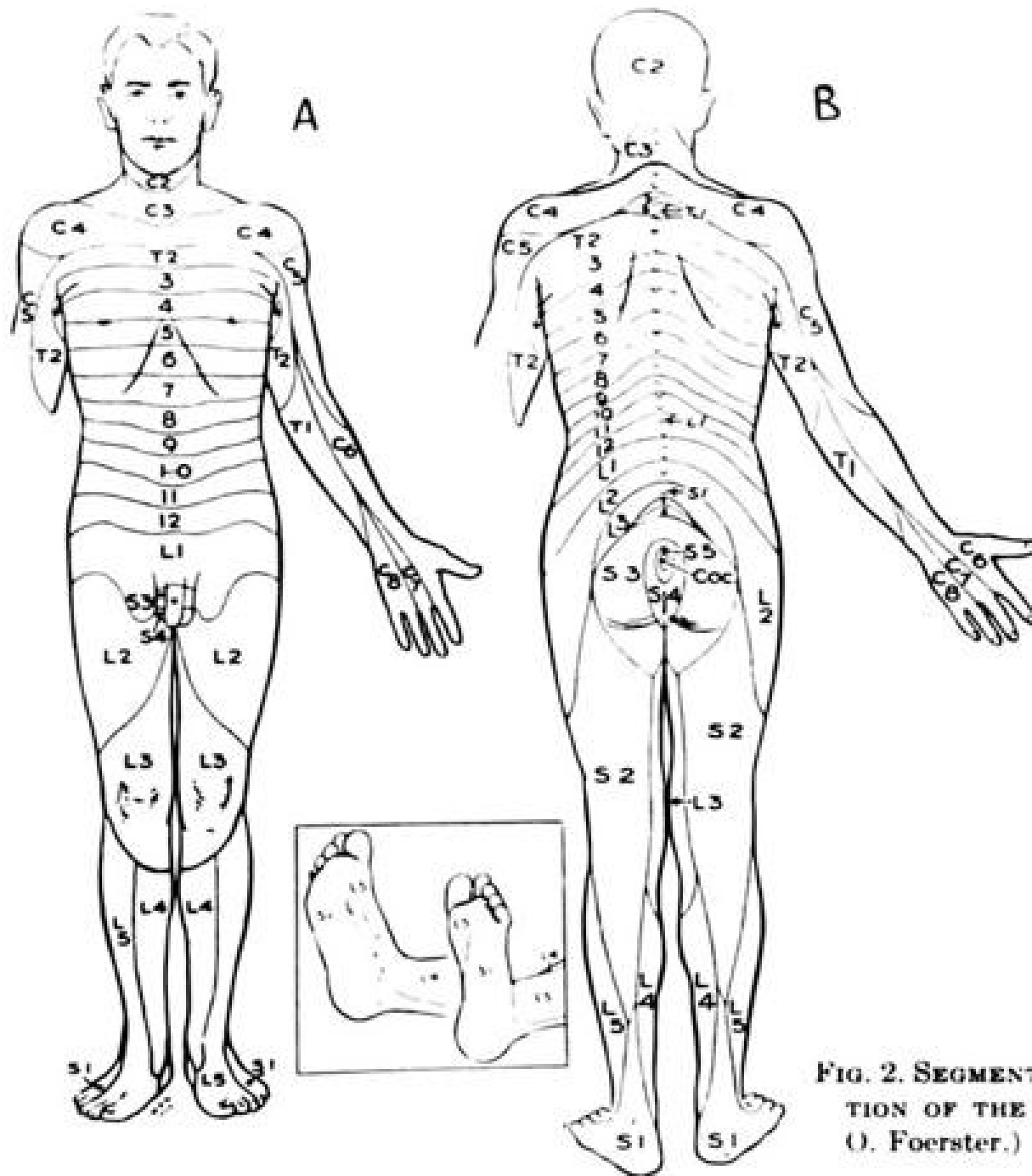


FIG. 2. SEGMENTAL INNERVATION OF THE SKIN. (After O. Foerster.)

Autonomic

SPINAL SHOCK

LOSS OF SYMPATHETIC TONE

FLACCID MUSCLES & SPHINCTERS

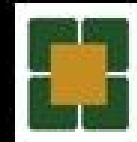
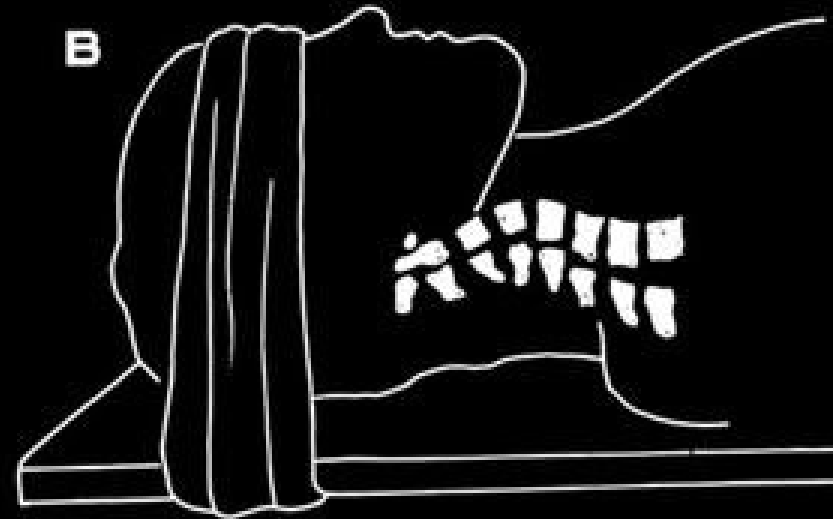
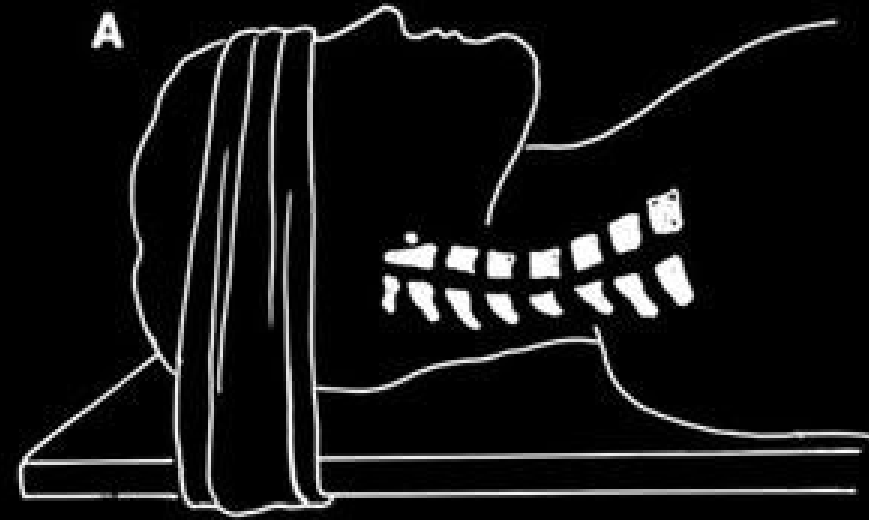
UP TO 50% VOLUME DEFICIT

↓ CARDIAC OUTPUT

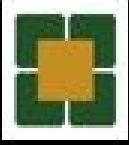
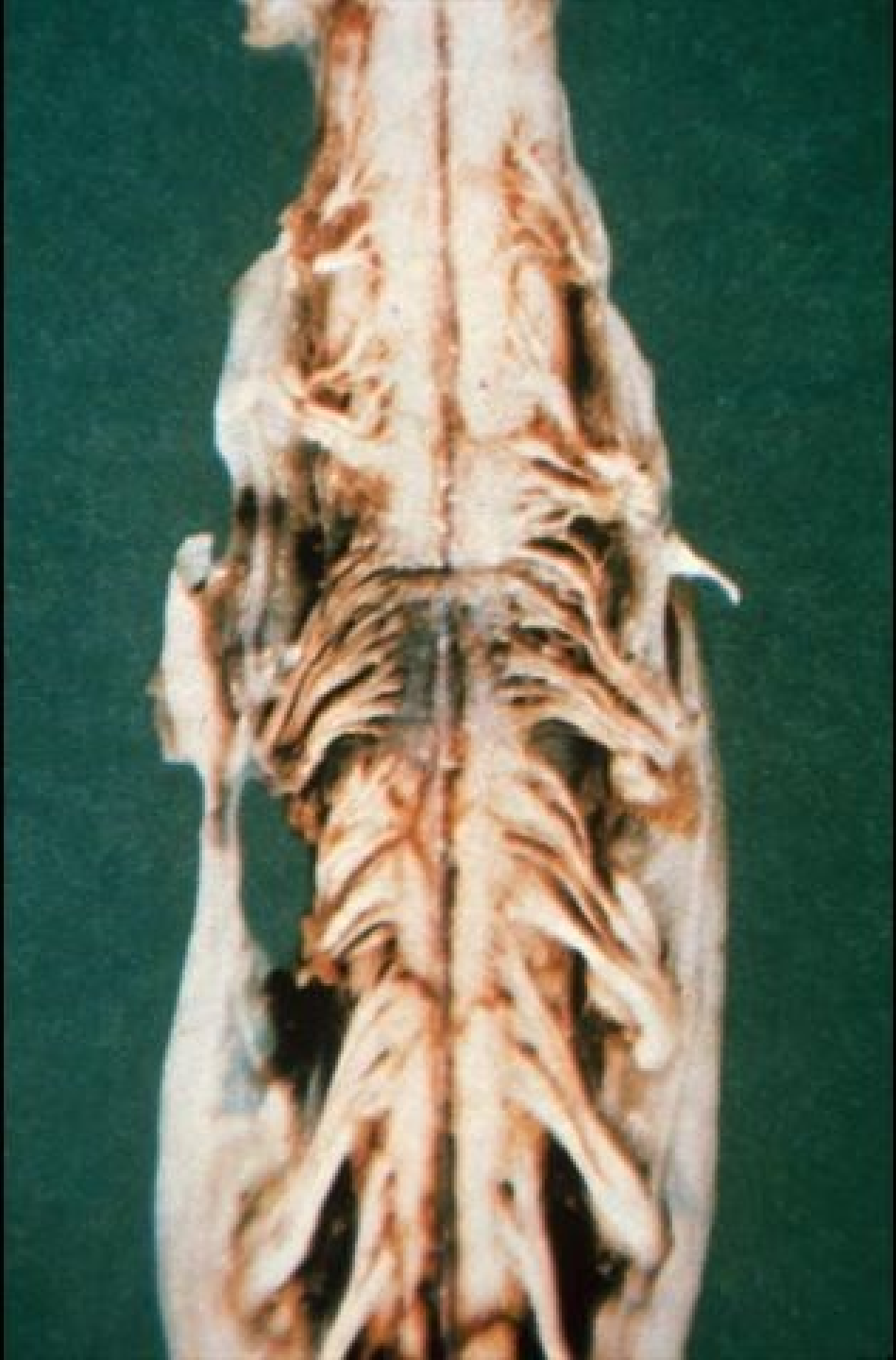
H E A T L O S S S

CARE FOR ACCIDENT VICTIM









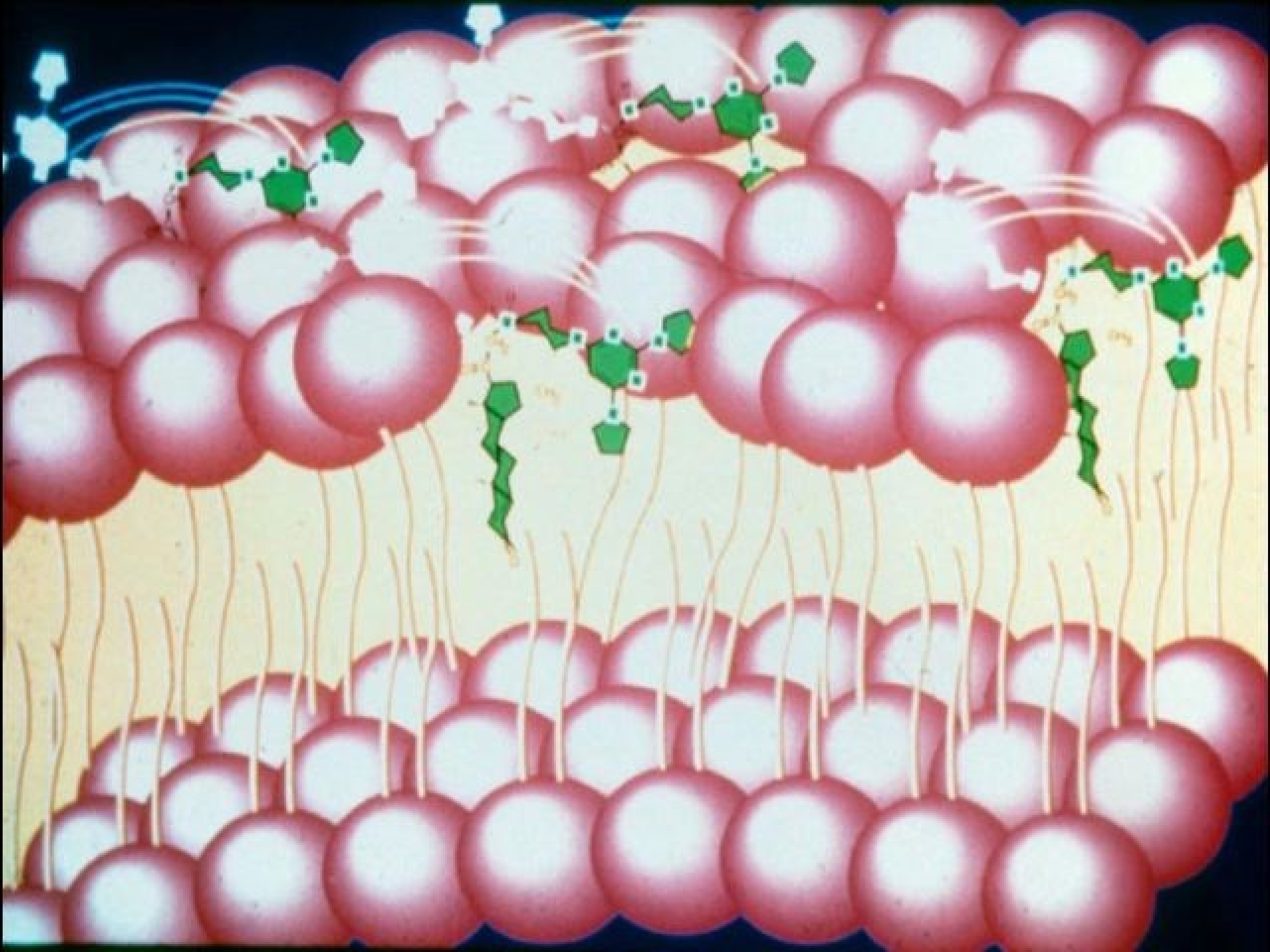
PRIMARY INJURY

Distortion

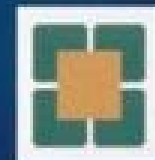
Disruption

Metabolic



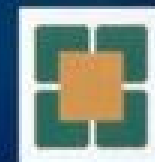


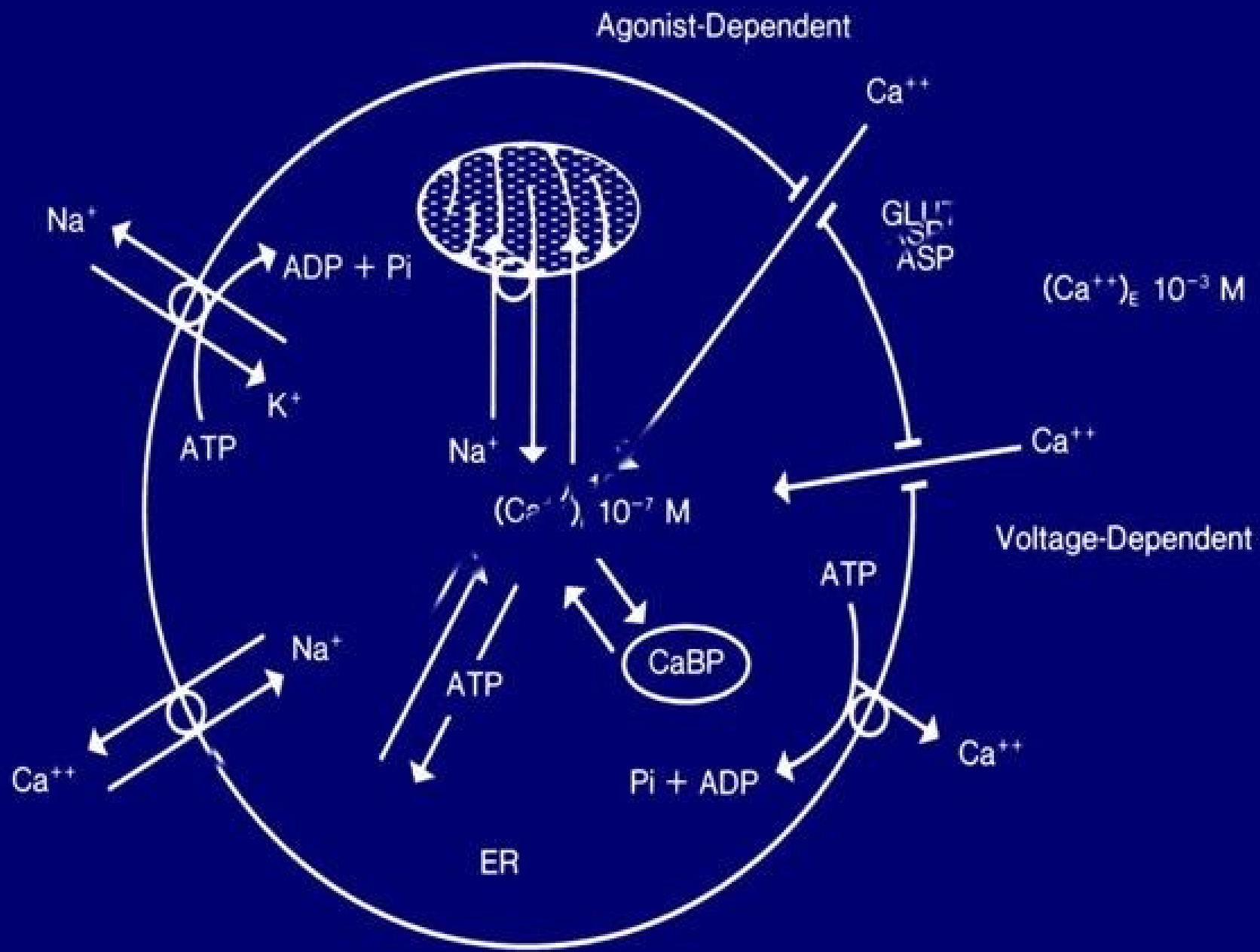
MYRIAD OF AGENTS



Ca⁺⁺

NMDA





STEROIDS

LOW

HIGH

ULTRA-HIGH



INFLAMMATION VS. CASCADE



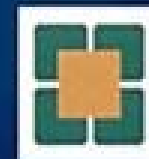
CARDIOVASCULAR MANAGEMENT

HYPOVOLEMIA

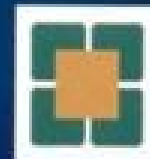
- - - - -

RELATIVE

$$\text{CPP} = \text{MABP} - \text{ICP}$$



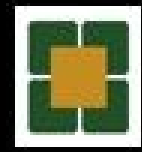
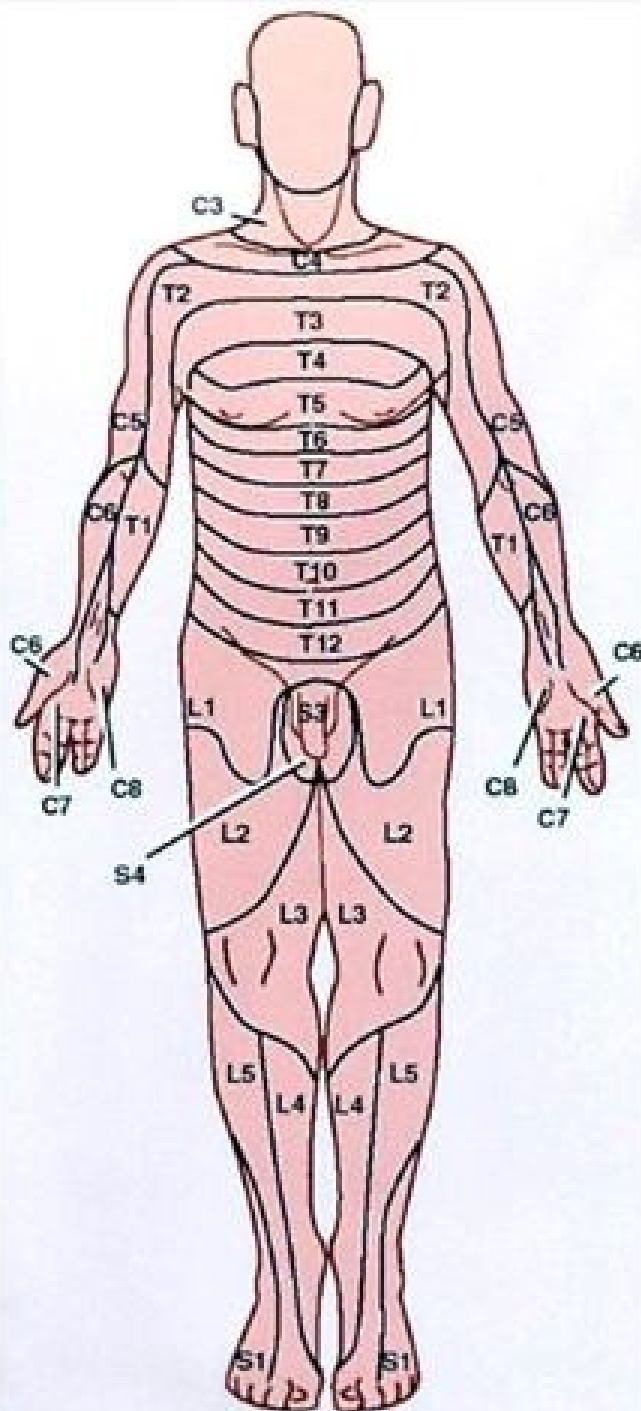
↑ **SCPP**



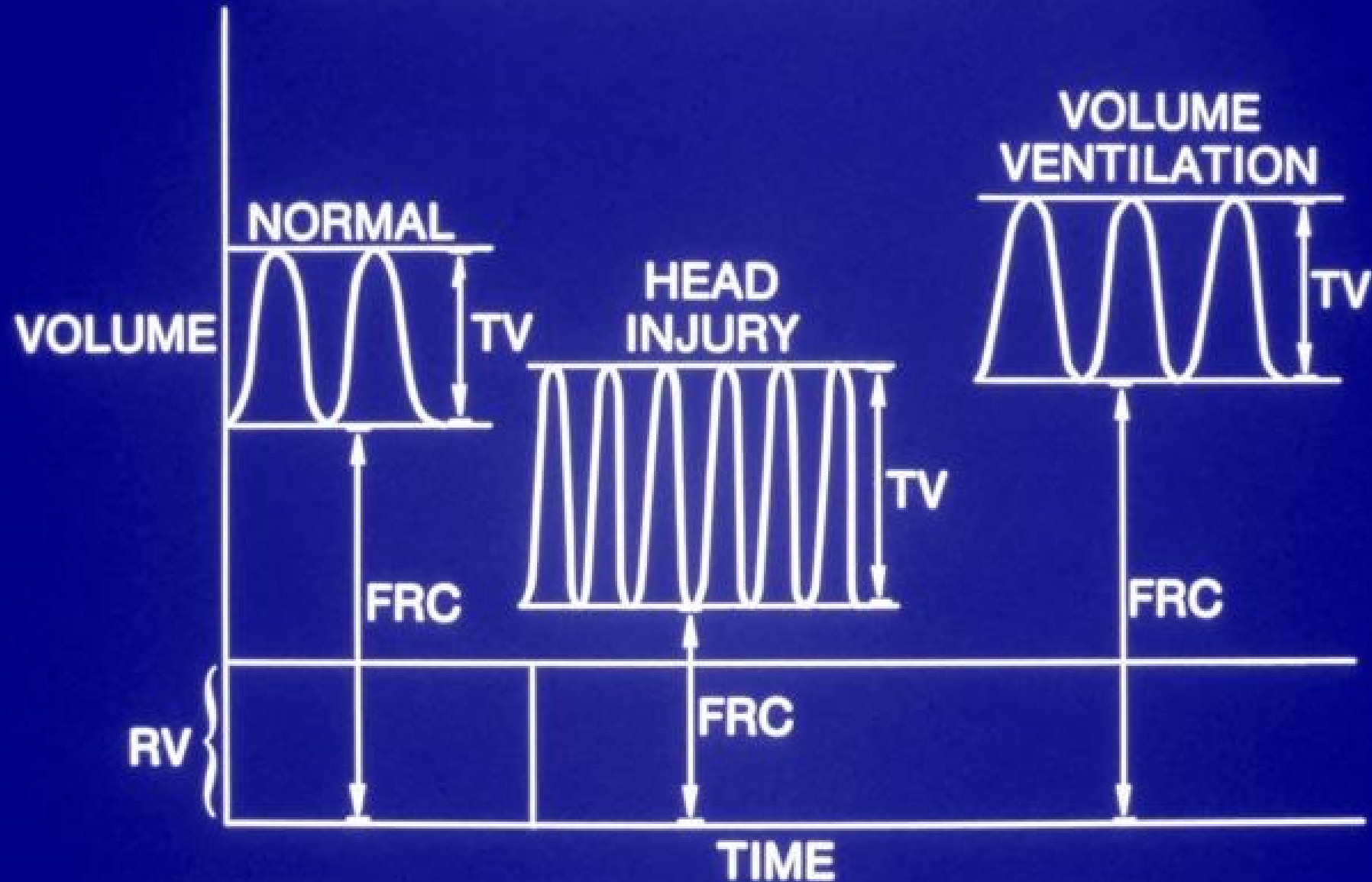
HYPOTHERMIA

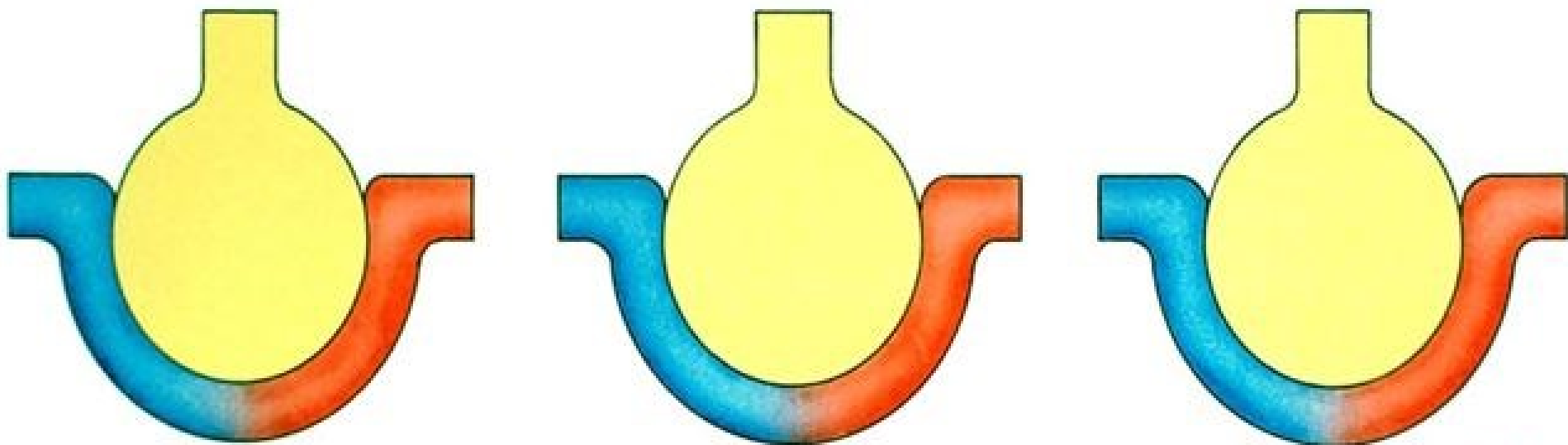
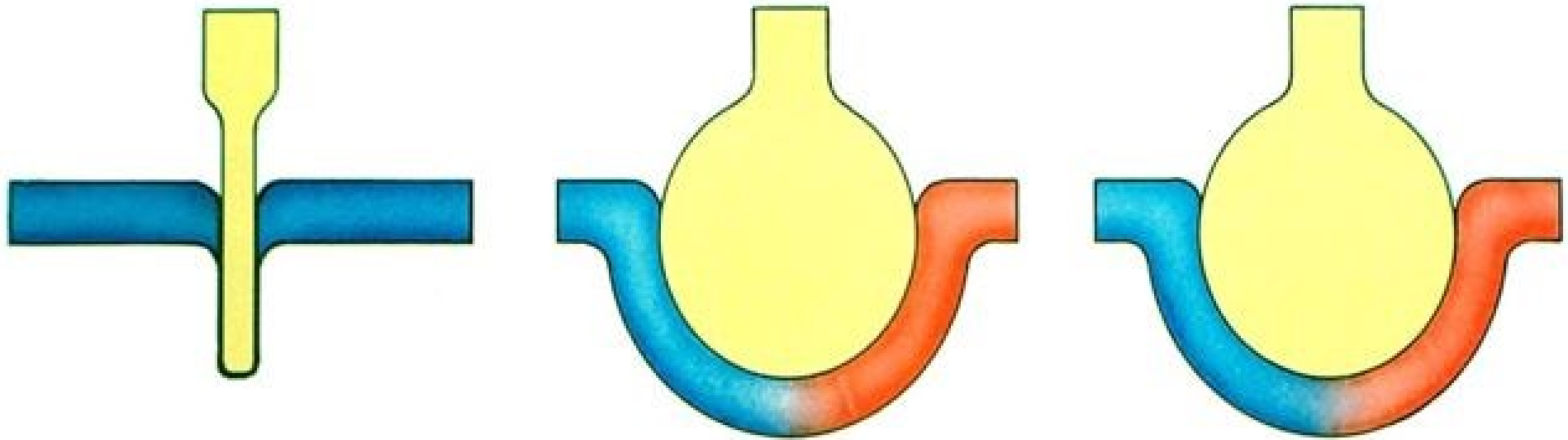
**‘RADIATOR
EFFECT’**

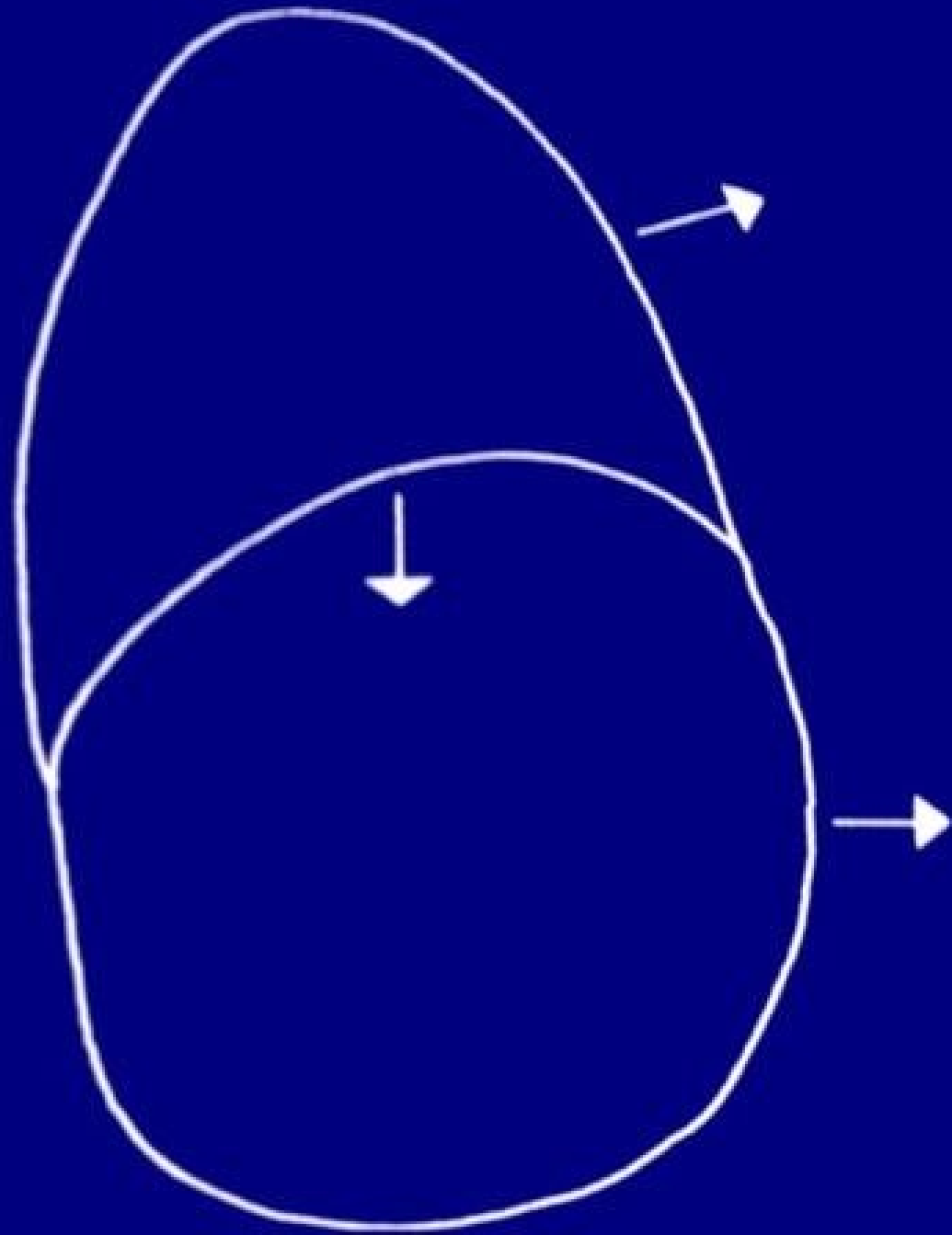
RESPIRATORY CARE



PATHOPHYSIOLOGY OF RESPIRATION IN HEAD INJURY







RIB CAGE

DIAPHRAGM

ABDOMEN

R_x

VOLUME VENTILATION
CHEST PHYSIOTHERAPY
AGGRESSIVE MANAGEMENT

CATABOLIC RESPONSE

2 MONTHS

Neg NITROGEN BALANCE

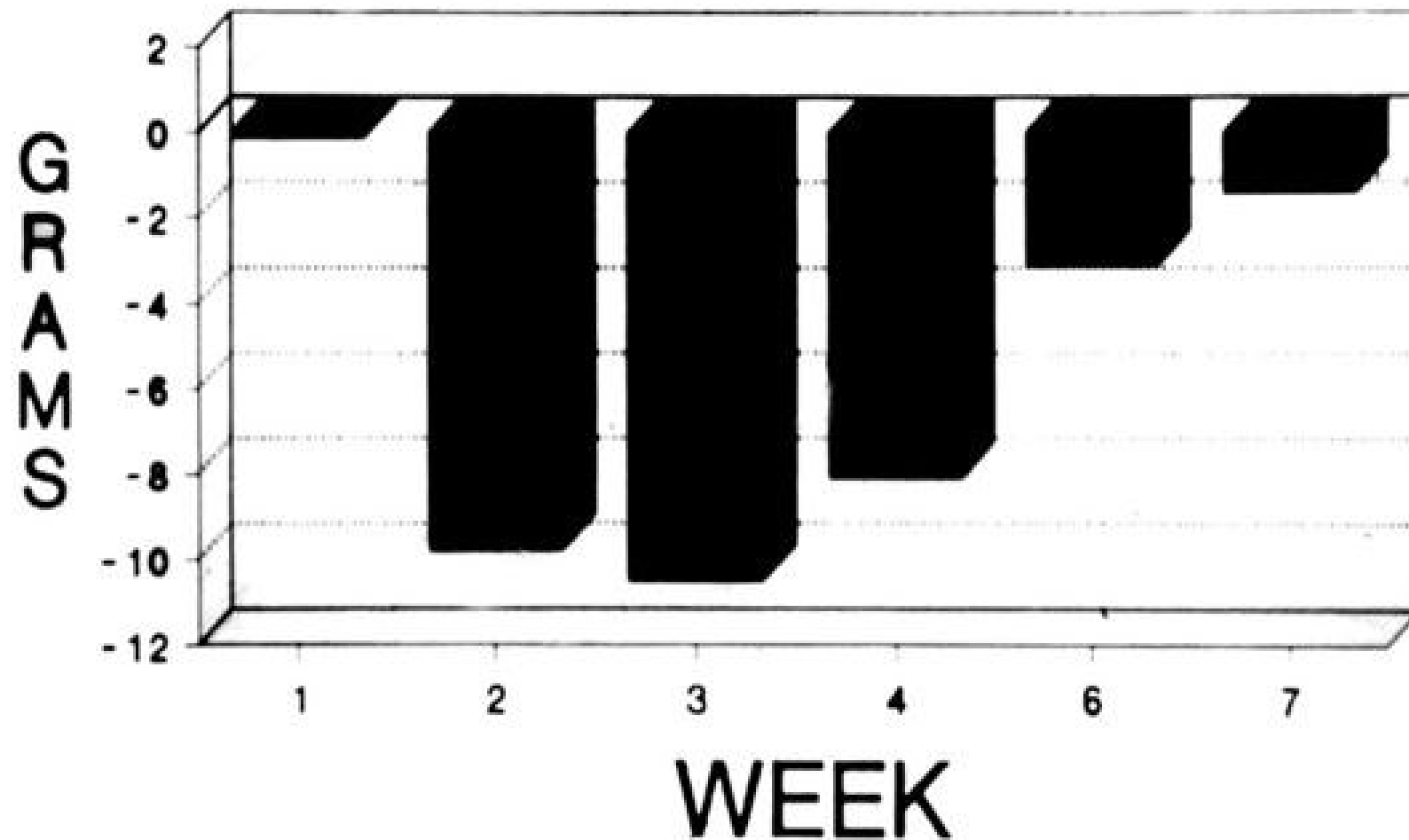
OVER (or UNDER) FEEDING

RESPIRATORY MUSCLES

- - - - -

↓ NUTRITION

MEAN WEEKLY NITROGEN BALANCE (SCI PATIENTS)



R_x

ESTIMATE REQUIREMENTS

REPLENISH

DOCUMENT EFFICACY

Men (kcal/day):

$$\text{BEE} = 66 + (13.8 \times \text{kg}) + (5 \times \text{cm}) - (6.8 \times \text{age})$$

$$\text{PEE} = \text{BEE} \times 1.2 \times 1.6$$

REPLENISH

- - - - -

PO

VS

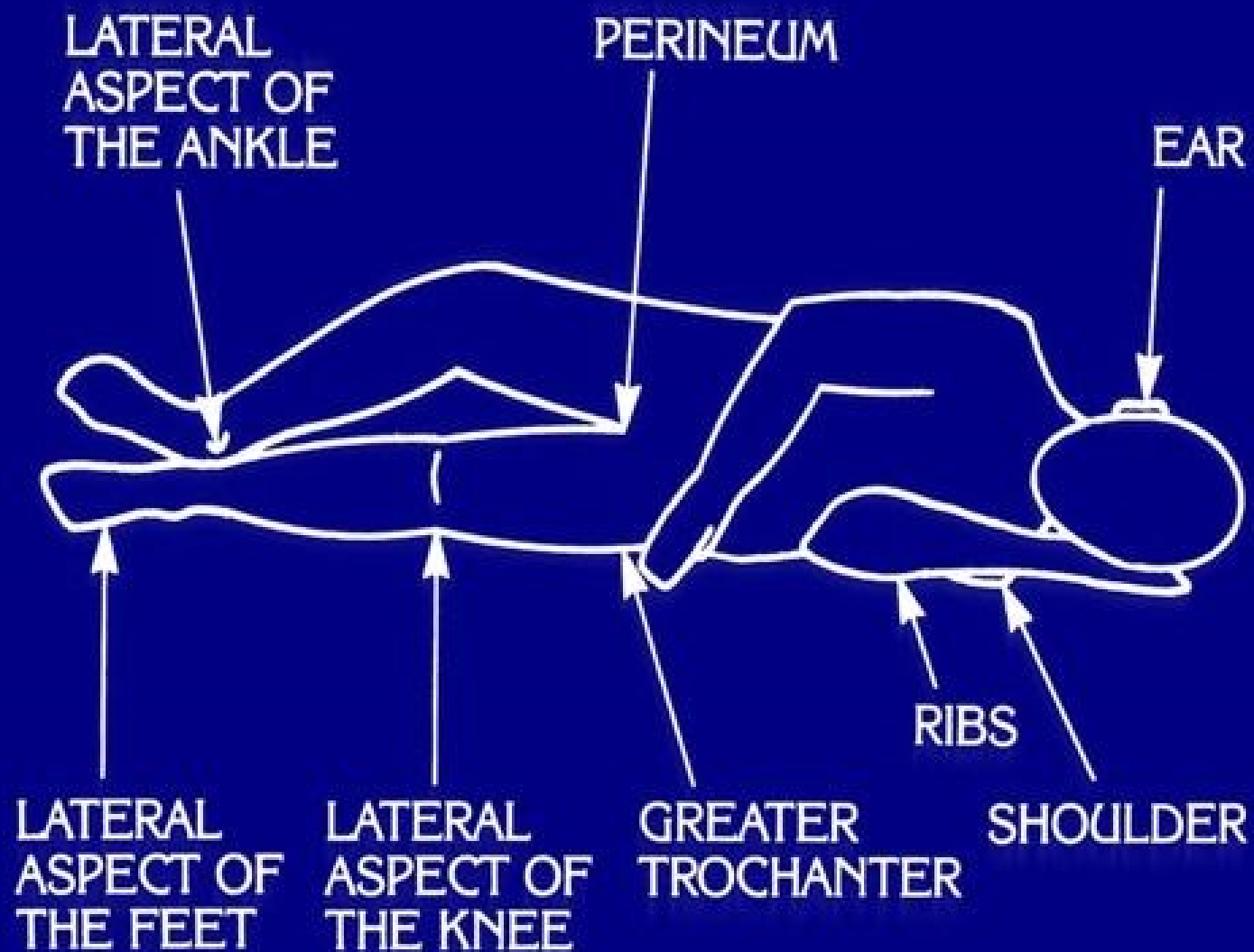
IV

FOLEY

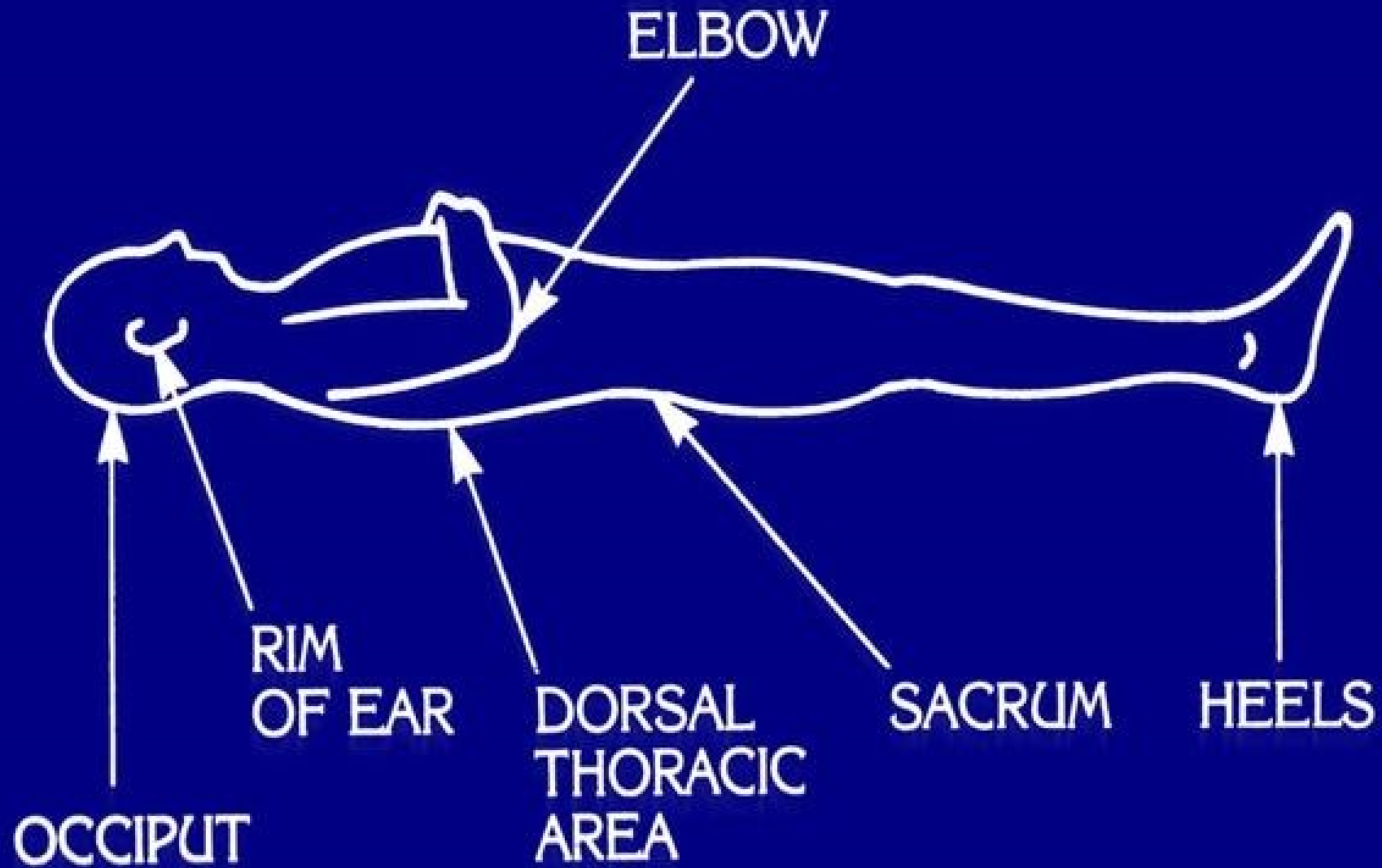
INTERMITTENT CATH.

SKIN CARE

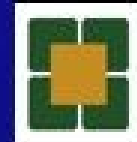
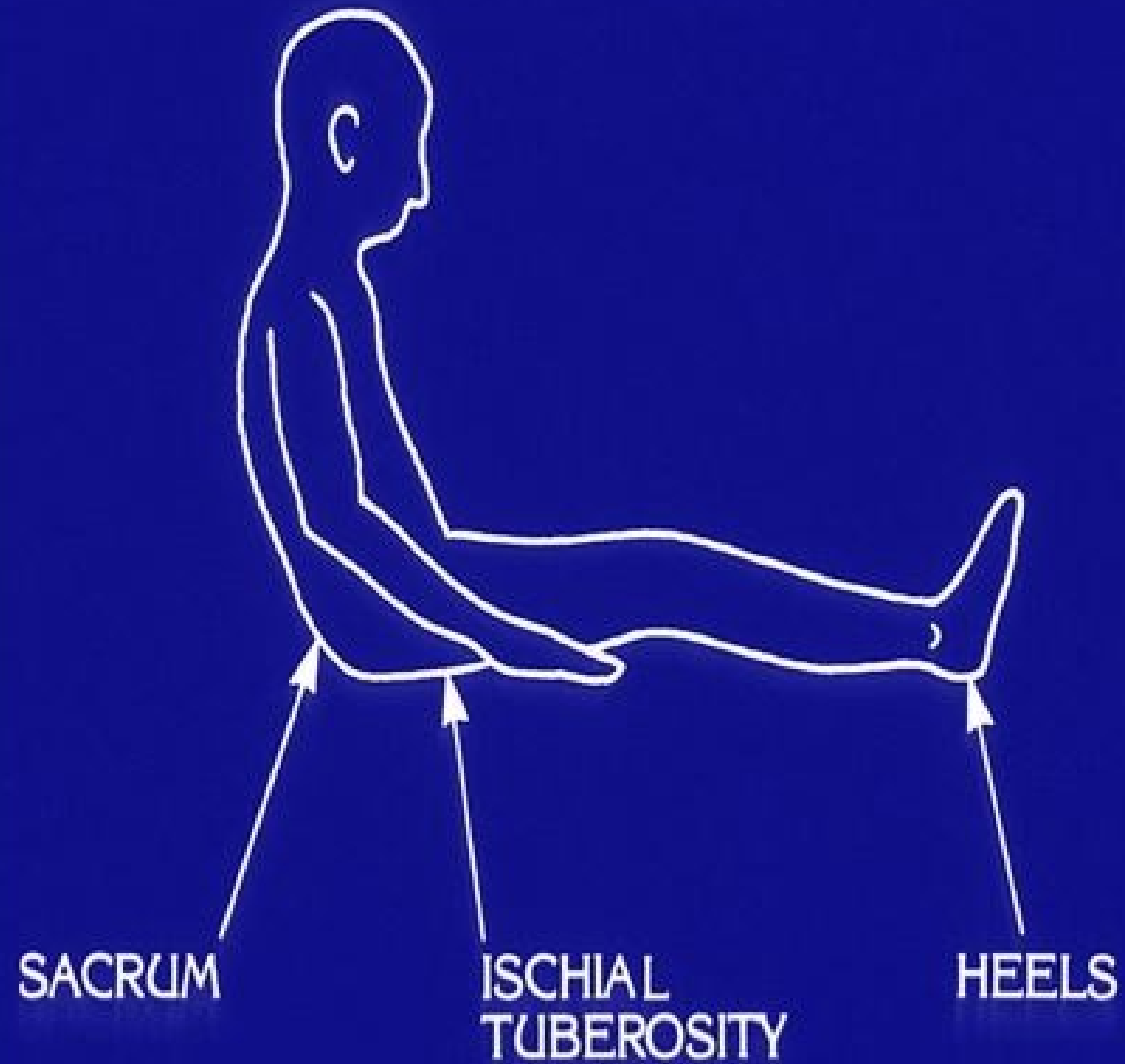
Side lying pressure points

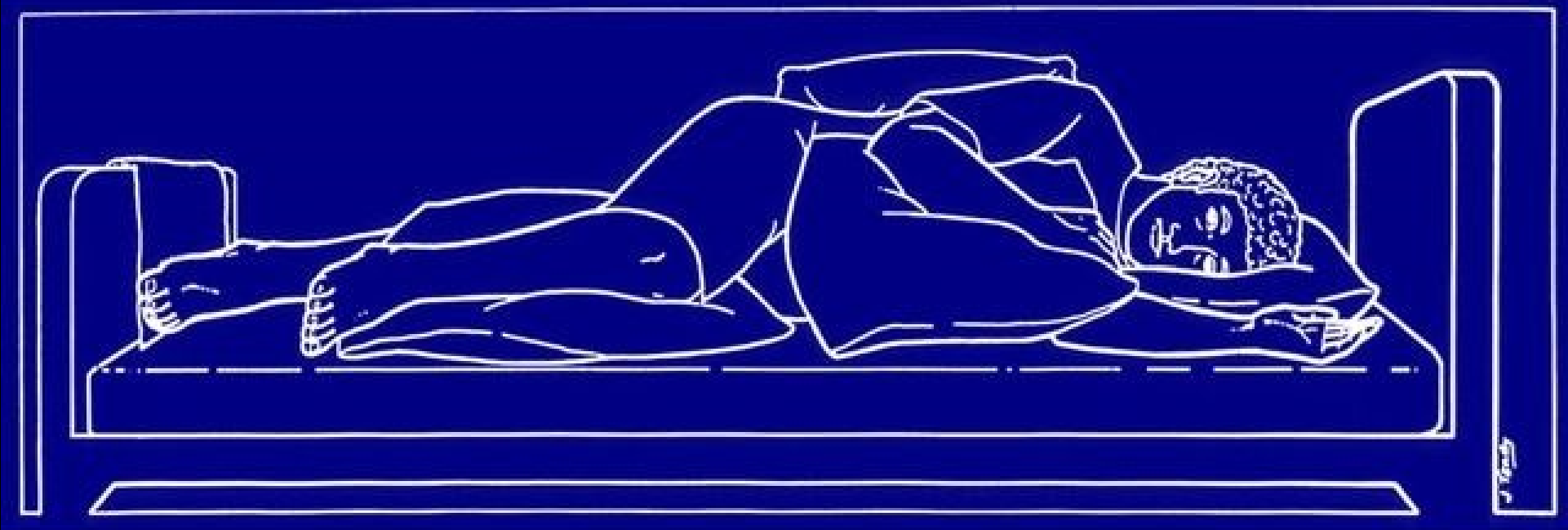


Supine pressure points

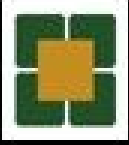


Sitting pressure points





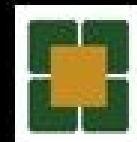
J. Smith





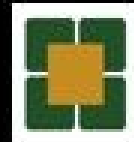
The Second Mission

**Establish
the
Plan**



When?

How?



Spinal Cord Injury

Emergent or Urgent Surgery



What is Emergent?

What is Urgent?



Definitions

may vary

DEPENDING ON CIRCUMSTANCES



1 hour
3 hours
8 hours
24 hours
72 hours



Logistics, Logistics, Logistics

**Vary from Institution to Institution
and from
Surgeon to Surgeon**



Laboratory Research



Rats

are not

Humans



Fiber Tracts
Somatotopic Arrangement Differs
Locomotor Command System



Human Research?



**Have we proven that surgery is
efficacious????**

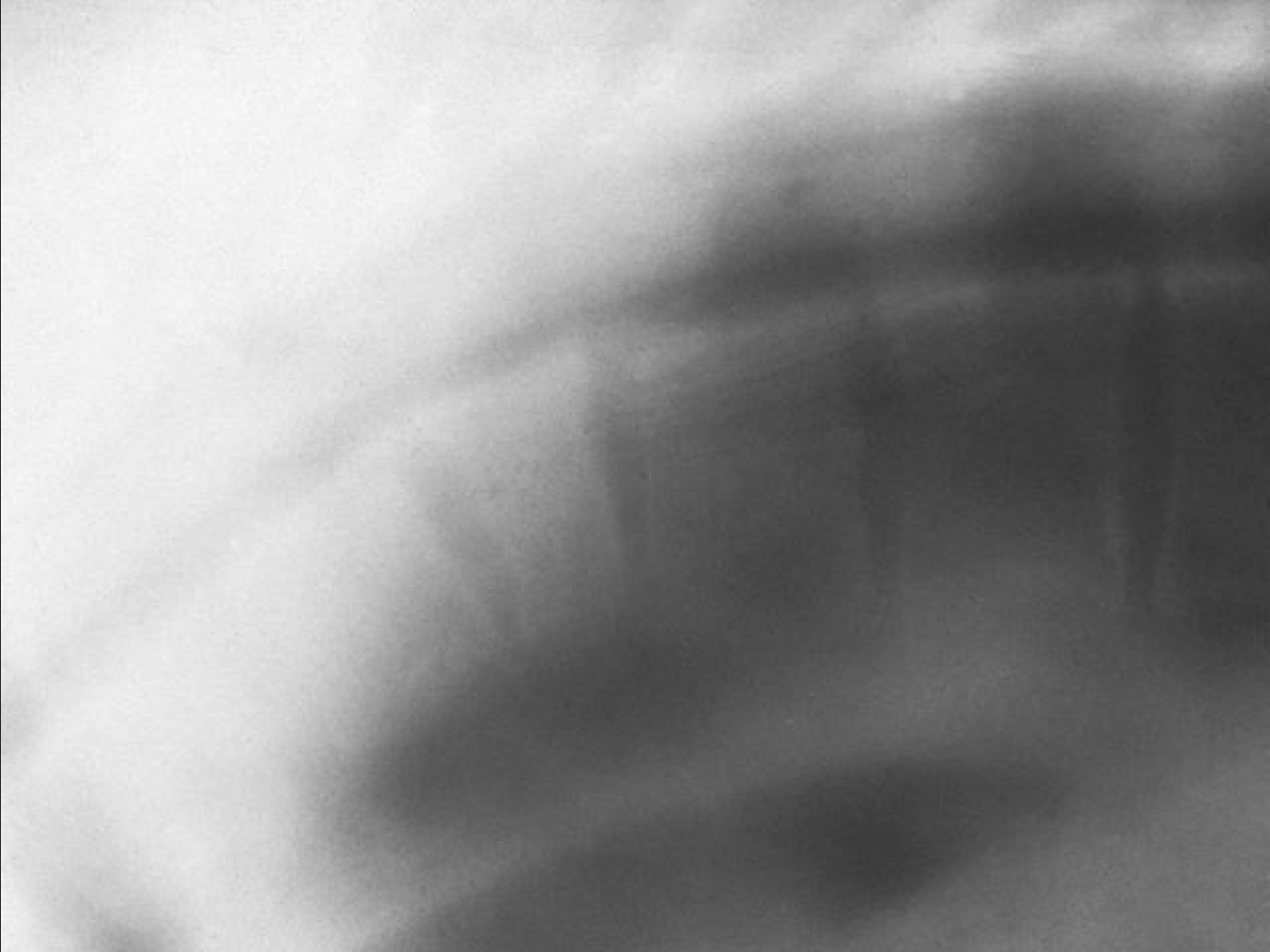


TABLE 7
Pre- and Postoperative Functional State

Preoperative		Postoperative						
Neurological grade	No. of cases	Neurological grade						
		I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII
I	34	(34) ^a						
II	10		(6)	2	1	1		
III	10			(1)	2	6	1	
IV	12				(0)	6	6	
V	11					(1)	10	
VI	21						(4)	17
VII	7							(7)

^a The numbers in parentheses indicate the total number of unimproved patients in each functional category.





**Have we proven that surgery is
efficacious????**

Not unequivocally!!!!



**Yet, we keep talking about
timing of surgery!!!!**



**If decompression surgery is not
proven,**

**will doing surgery earlier help make
our case?**



**Legitimate
Evidence**

Sparse



TIMING OF SURGERY FOR ACUTE SCI

No standards re ROLE AND TIMING of decompression in acute SCI

Urgent decompression for bilateral locked facets in incomplete myelopathy

Urgent decompression for neurological deterioration

Urgent decompression for acute SCI – reasonable practice option

Urgent decompression for acute SCI – can be performed safely

EMERGING EVIDENCE – Surgery within 24 hrs MAY reduce length of ICU stay

EMERGING EVIDENCE – Surgery within 24 hrs MAY reduce medical complications

Fehlings et al Spine, 2006



Study Planned

U of Toronto and Thomas Jefferson

Not Randomized
24 hours

Investigator Bias
Patient Selection Bias
Winner-Loser Bias



Closed Reduction of Locked Facets

8% incidence of neurological deterioration



Tator et al; JNS Spine 1999



Emotion

vs

Evidence



**If my foot was on your spinal cord,
you would want me to take it off!!!**



NOW!!!!!!



Its just not that simple.

The removing of the foot requires

both

Anesthesia and Surgery

in a

Medically Vulnerable Patient

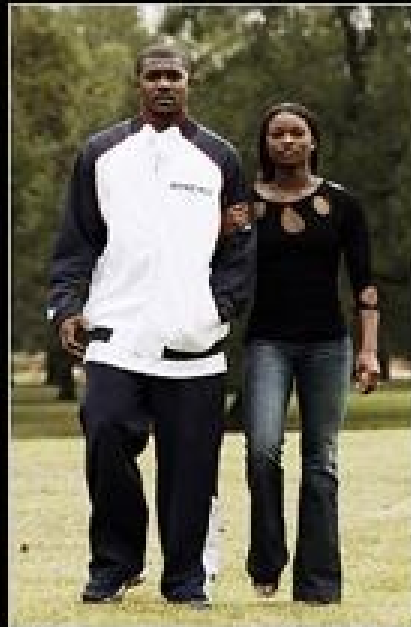


Much Hype in Player's Treatment, Doctors Say

By [ALAN SCHWABZ](#)

Published: January 15, 2008

For all the images of athletes running and jumping in 2007, the sight of Kevin Everett merely walking was one of the most newsworthy.



**We must focus on the study of objective,
non-biased metrics.....**

**.....and make decisions based on the
data derived!!!!!!**



CHEMISTRY



CHEMISTRY

**If it works for you.....
.....it works for you!!!!**



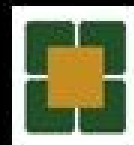
CHEMISTRY

...and it probably works
for your patients!!!!

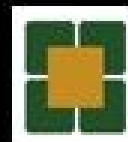


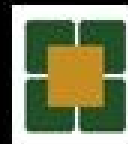
Penetrating Injuries







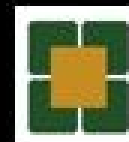






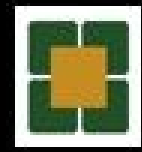
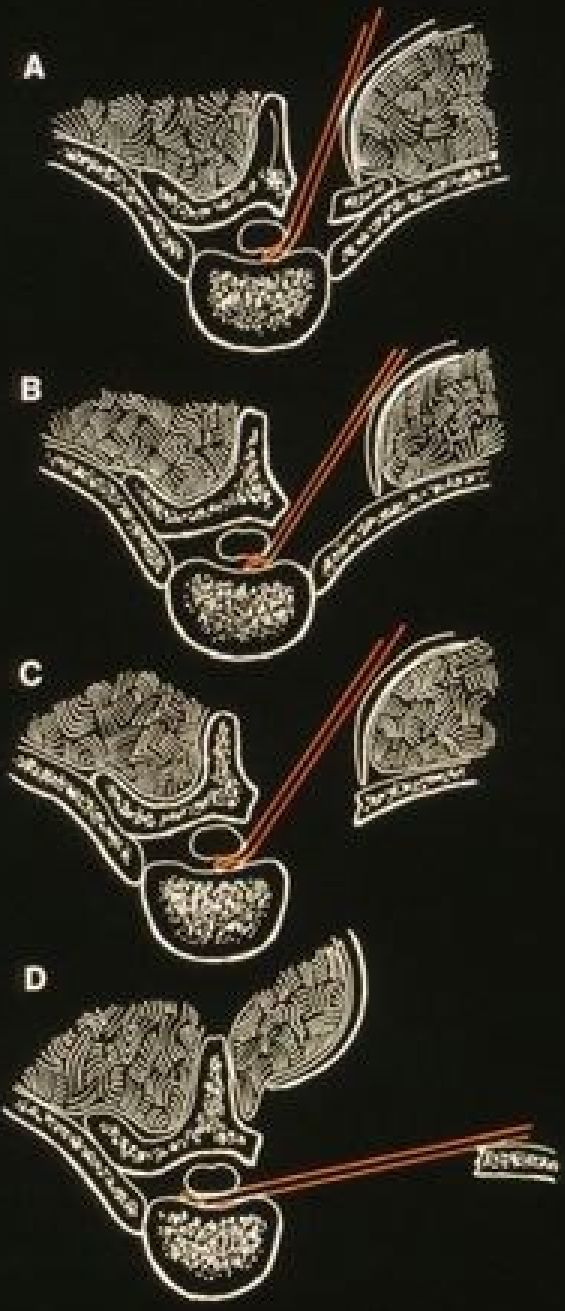
When?

How?



Surgical Strategies





Fuse Long

Fuse Short



Front

Back

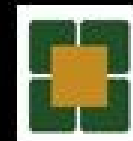
Both



EVIDENCE-BASED METHODOLOGIES

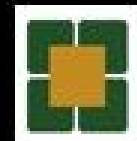
**“The conscientious, explicit, and
judicious use of the current best
evidence in making decisions about the
care of individual patients”**

Sackett

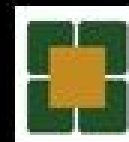


“Good doctors use both individual clinical expertise and the best available external evidence, and neither alone is enough. Without clinical expertise, practice risks becoming tyrannized by evidence, because even excellent external evidence may be inapplicable to or inappropriate for an individual patient. Without current best evidence, practice risks rapidly becoming out of date, to the detriment of patients.”

Sackett DL: Evidence-Based Medicine. Spine 23:1085-1086, 1998



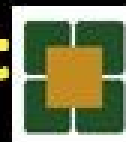
PBDM



PBDM

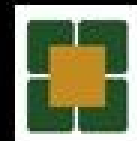
**A Clinical Decision-Making Strategy That
Employs the Best Available Information
and a
Logic-Based Decision Making-Process**

- **Separation of a Complex Problem into its Component Parts**
- **Prioritization of the Component Parts**
- **Serial Solution of the Prioritized Component Parts (Problems)**



THORACOLUMBAR TRAUMA

- Neurological
- Ventral Column Restoration Capacity
- Deformity Prevention





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MINIMAL

1



SPREAD

2



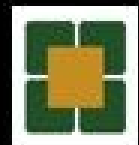
WIDE

3

THORACOLUMBAR TRAUMA

- Neurological
- Ventral Column Restoration Capacity
- Deformity Prevention





THORACOLUMBAR TRAUMA

- Neurological
- Ventral Column Restoration Capacity
- Deformity Prevention



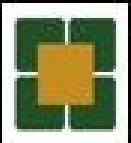


THORACOLUMBAR TRAUMA

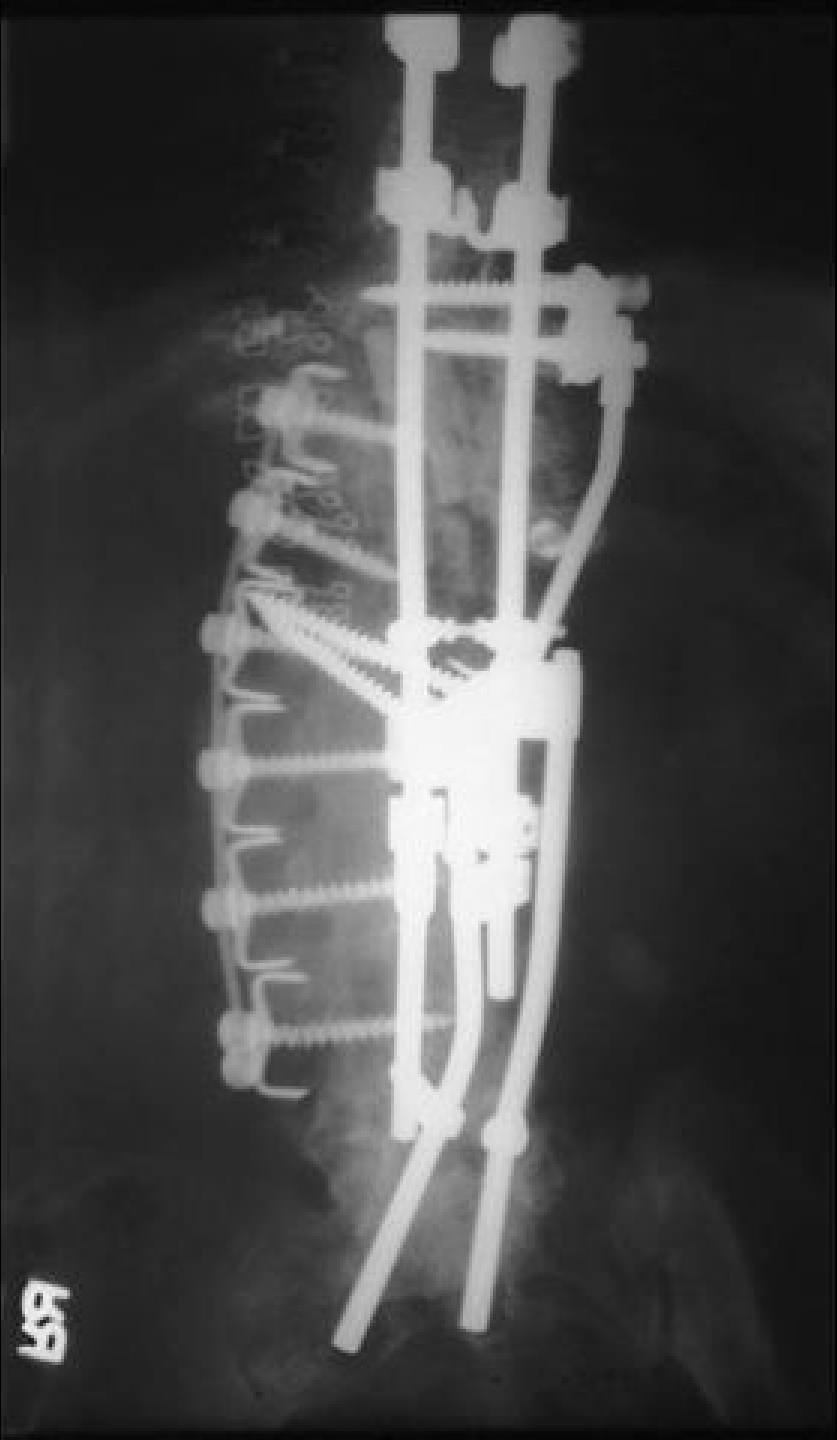
- Neurological
- Ventral Column Restoration Capacity
- Deformity Prevention



**SPINE SURGERY
BEGETS
SPINE SURGERY**



LSA



THANK YOU!!!