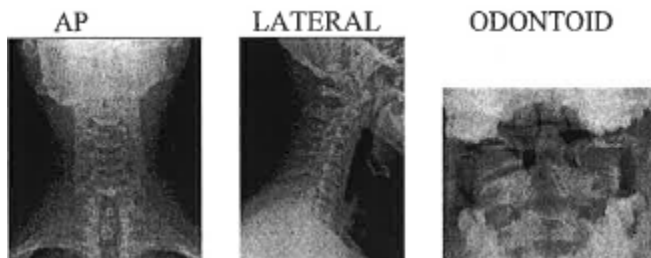


Cervical Spine X-ray Guideline

Note: For initial evaluation after trauma, routine 3 view (AP/Lateral/Odontoid) is recommended unless requested by a spine surgeon.

Routine: 3-4 views

- LATERAL – Upright - include sella to C7-T1. Do a Swimmers Lateral if necessary to visualize C7 – T1.
- AP - CR angled 15 degrees cephalic. (AP and Lateral views should both be centered at C4.)
- ODONTOID (Open mouth view. Try Fuchs method if odontoid is incompletely seen on Open mouth)



Routine: 5 or 7 views

Note: When a 7 view C-spine is requested, please consult with Radiologist unless ordered by a spine surgeon.

- LATERAL – Upright - include sella to C7-T1. Do a Swimmers Lateral if necessary to visualize C7 – T1.
- AP - CR angled 15 degrees cephalad
- ODONTOID
- 2 OBLIQUES or LATERAL FLEXION AND EXTENSION if requested by provider (It is preferred that Obliques be taken as AP projection, with posterior surface to detector- R marker used on RPO, L marker used on LPO. PA projection may be performed if necessary but each shoulder must be marked with LT or RT marker and PA orientation must be documented.)

