

Mechanisms of Abdominal Injury

- Falls
- Deceleration injuries
 - Penetrating injuries
 - Abdominal area involved
 - Amount of energy transferred
 - Gunshot wounds
 - Kinetic energy = $1/2M \times V^2$
 - M = mass
 - V = velocity

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Assessment

- Critical findings
 - Altered mental status
 - Airway compromise
 - Respiratory distress
 - Shock
 - Signs of peritonitis

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Assessment

- Treat immediate life threats
- Rapid transport ("load and go")
- Conduct further assessment en route

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