



- From Hoffman et al. Validity of a set of clinical criteria to rule out injury to the cervical spine in patients with blunt trauma. National Emergency X-Radiography Utilization Study Group. N Engl J Med. 2000;343(2):94.
- The NEXUS investigators evaluated 34,069 blunt trauma patients who underwent imaging of the cervical spine comprised of either a three-view cervical spine radiograph, cervical spine CT, or MRI. Of these patients, 818 (2.4 percent) had sustained a cervical spinal column injury. Sensitivity, specificity, and negative predictive value of the NLC were found to be 99.6 percent (95% CI 98.6-100), 12.9 percent (95% CI 12.8-13.0), and 99.9 percent (95% CI 99.8-100), respectively. Insignificant injuries were defined as those that would not lead to any consequences if left undiagnosed.

* Abnormal level of alertness defined as GCS <15, disorientation to person, time, place, or events, inability to remember 3 objects at 5 minutes, delayed or inappropriate response to external stimuli.