



Abbreviated Injury Severity Scale (AIS) - Short Reference Guide for RESTART investigators

Exclusion criteria: Abbreviated Injury Scale other than head with a score >3

Please note the majority of patients recruited to this trial are likely to be isolated Traumatic Brain Injuries (TBIs) and therefore this will not be relevant. It only applies to multisystem polytrauma patients.

The abbreviated injury scale (AIS) was initially devised for blunt trauma but updated to include penetrating trauma, this system assigns a score of 0 to 6 based on each anatomic region of the body, in which 0 indicates no injury and 6 represents a nonsurvivable or fatal injury.

It is coded retrospectively in a digital or manual dictionary

Examples of AIS < 4

- 1 for a minor injury such as an abrasion,
- 2 for an undisplaced pelvic fracture,
- 3 for a displaced long-bone fracture

Polytrauma Considerations

an AIS > 3 in areas other than head would include the following injuries:

- 4 a displaced pelvic fracture
- 5 for multiple open fractures
- 6 for a fatal injury

- This system is most useful in [polytrauma](#) when used to create an injury severity score. **This score is calculated retrospectively.**



All major trauma centres will have a NMTR administrator calculating such scores if advice is ever required. If in doubt and multiple severe injuries have been sustained it is suggested that the patient be excluded from participation in the trial.