



All that's banged up doesn't go in the bag: Solid organ injury in kids

Jonathan Emerson Kohler, MD MA FAAP
Assistant Professor of Surgery & Pediatrics
Trauma Medical Director, American Family Children's Hospital
University of Wisconsin - Madison

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A case

- 12 year-old boy trying to run across a busy road
- Struck by a car going 35 mph
- Abdominal bruising, abdominal pain, tachycardia (120s)

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What do you do in the field?

- Primary survey
- Immobilization
- Transport to the ED

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What do you do in the ER?

- Primary survey
- Secondary survey
- Imaging

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Imaging

- What modality?
 - Plain films?
 - CT?
 - FAST?

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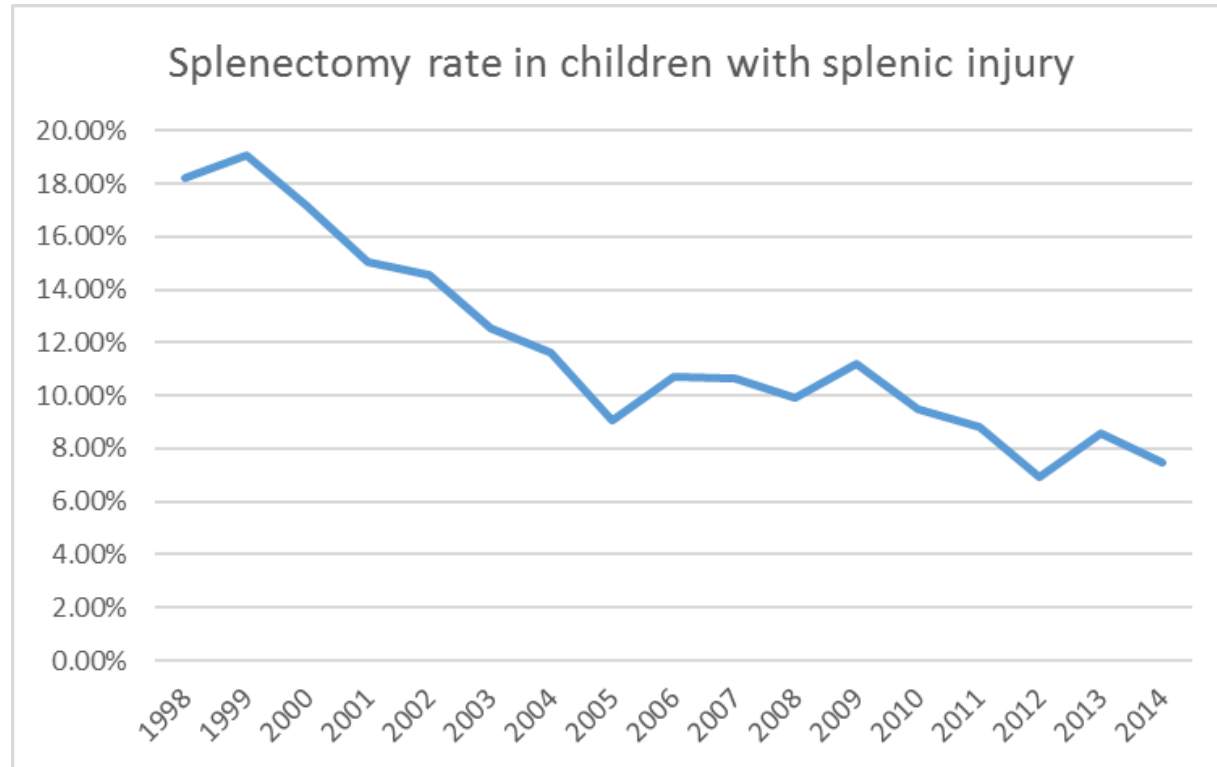
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How we used to do it...

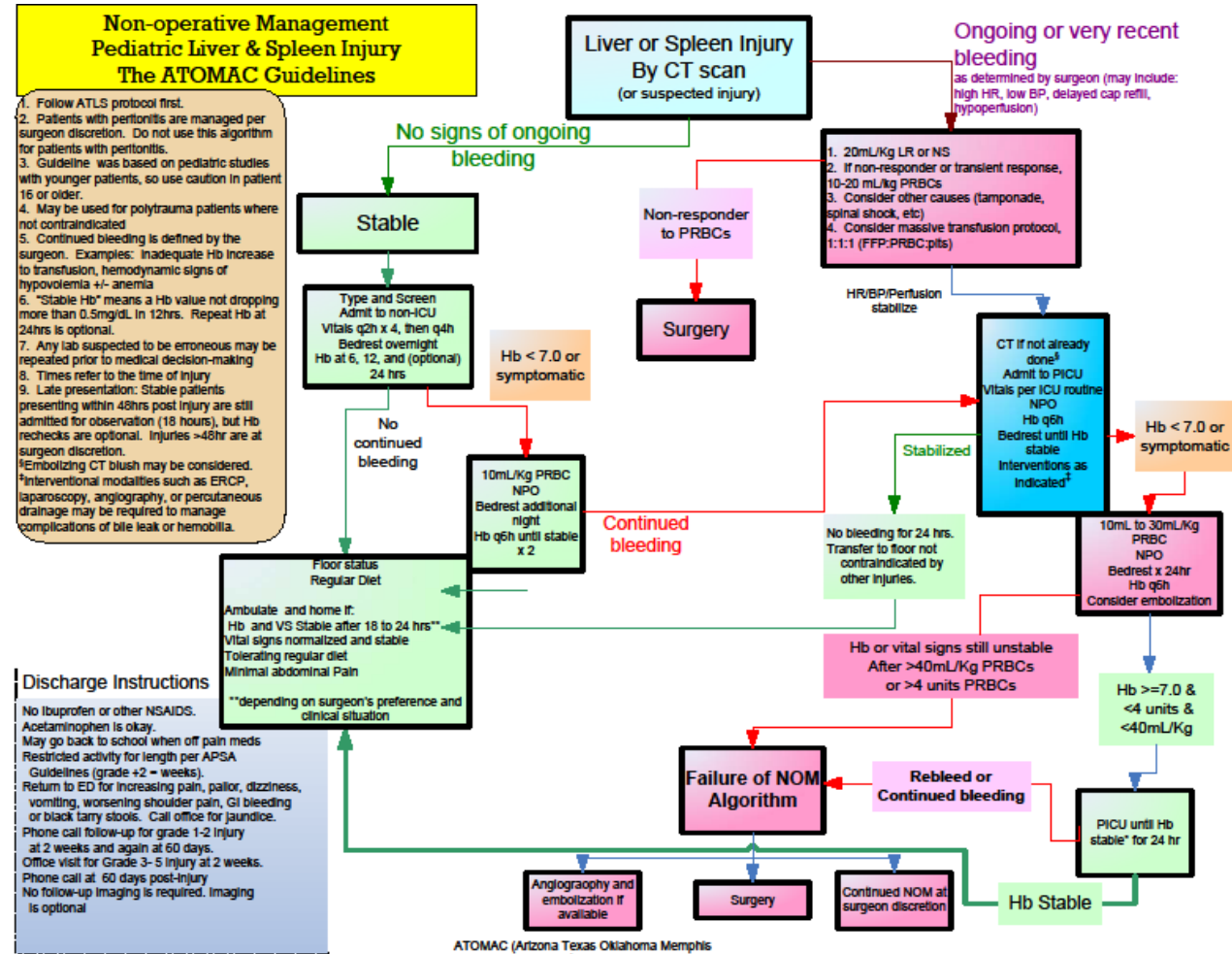
- Low threshold for operations
- Hospital for Grade + 1 days
- Activity restrictions for Grade + 2 weeks

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Splenectomy in children



The ATOMAC* Protocol



*Arizona Texas Oklahoma Memphis Arkansas Consortium

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Basically:

- Liver or spleen injuries: OR only if non-responsive to crystalloid (20mg/kg) and blood (40 mg/kg). And even then...
- Home when hemoglobin stable for 18-24 hours and clinically well

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After discharge

- No ibuprofen/NSAIDs
- Restricted activity still for Grade + 2 weeks
 - But how good are we at deciding on grade of injury?
- Good return instructions
- No scheduled follow-up imaging

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