



Checklist for Examination of Facial Injuries

History

- ☐ Mechanism of injury
- ☐ Unusual sounds or sensations
- ☐ Location, type, and quality of pain
- ☐ Previous injury
- ☐ Complaints of impaired, blurred, or double vision
- ☐ Complaints of headache, dizziness, tinnitus (evidence of associated concussion)
- ☐ Complaints of loss of hearing

Observation

- ☐ Swelling, deformity, flattening, or discoloration of facial structures
- ☐ Symmetry of facial structures
- ☐ Bleeding from nose or around teeth
- ☐ Position of eyes bilaterally
- ☐ Eyes for pupil size and shape, corneal surface, hyphema, hyperemia
- ☐ Jaw position, malocclusion
- ☐ Position and alignment of teeth
- ☐ External ear and auditory canal
- ☐ Signs and symptoms of head injury (particularly with blows to the jaw)
- ☐ Bilateral check

Palpation

Bilaterally palpate for swelling, depressions, deformity, crepitus, and point tenderness:

- ☐ Forehead, orbital rim, zygomatic arch, maxilla, nasal bones, mandible
- ☐ Temporomandibular joint (clicking, locking, tenderness with movement)
- ☐ Soft tissue cartilage of the external ear
- ☐ Teeth for looseness, fracture

Special Tests

- ☐ Bite test
- ☐ Maxillary fracture test
- ☐ Percussion test

Examination of Vision, Smell, and Hearing

- ☐ Otoscope
- ☐ Ophthalmoscope
- ☐ Visual, hearing, and smell acuity

Range of Motion

- ☐ ROM of temporomandibular joint
- ☐ Opening and closing of mouth (2 to 3 finger widths)
- ☐ Side-to-side movement of jaw
- ☐ Mandible protrusion
- ☐ Eye movement (compare bilaterally and note restriction of movement)
- ☐ Facial movements

Neurological

- ☐ Cranial nerve check if you suspect associated head injury