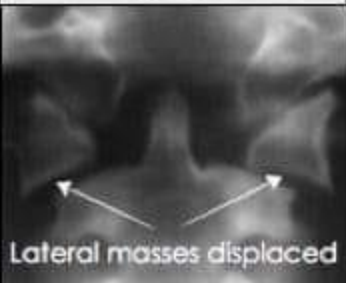


Unstable Fractures of the Cervical Spine

Type	Mechanism	Clinical	Image
Jefferson fracture (C1 burst frx)	Axial load with vertical compression	- Football player spearing another player - Seen on odontoid view	 Lateral masses displaced
Bilateral facet dislocation	Flexion	- Called locked facets, but unstable - Anterior displacement >50% diameter of vertebral body	 "locked" facets Anterior displacement
Hangman's fracture (bilateral C2 pedicle fracture)	Extension; C2 displaced anteriorly on C3	- Diving into shallow pool - Judicial hangings with noose anterior - Uncommon in suicidal hangings	 C2 Anterior displacement C3
Teardrop fracture	Flexion or extension	Teardrop is anteroinferior portion of vertebral body	 "teardrop" fragment
Atlantoaxial or atlanto-occipital dislocation	Flexion or extension	Usually results in death	 Atlanto-occipital dislocation
Odontoid type II/III	Flexion	- Severe high cervical pain or pain radiating to occiput - Due to major forces	 Odontoid type II frx



**Hyperflexion sprain
(anterior subluxation)**



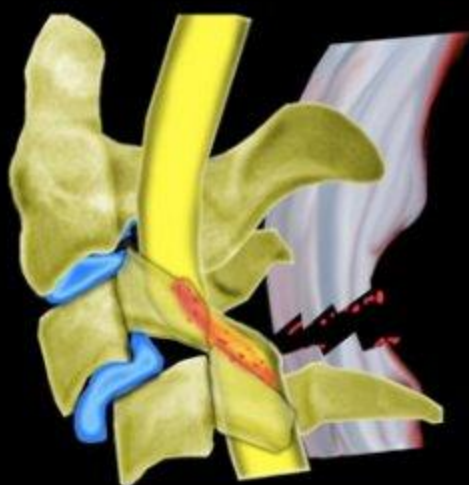
**Simple wedge #
(stable)**



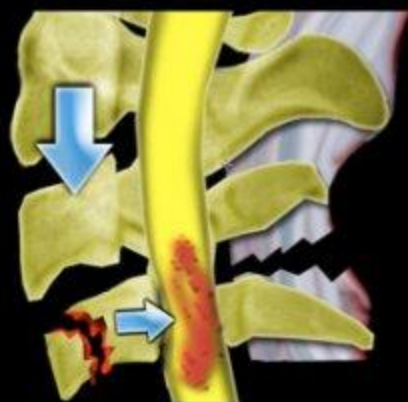
Unstable wedge #



**Unilateral Interfacetal
Dislocation (UID)**



**Bilateral Interfacetal
Dislocation (BID)**



Flexion Teardrop #

Odontoid fracture classification



Type I :

Fracture of the upper part of the odontoid peg ; it's rare and potentially unstable



Type II :

Fracture at the base of the odontoid ; unstable, and has a high risk of non-union



Type III :

Through the odontoid and into the lateral masses of C2 ; best prognosis for healing