

# AO Spine Thoracolumbar Injury Classification System

#### Compression Type A Injuries

Minor, nonstructural fractures



Wedge-compression





Type B Distraction **Injuries** 

band disruption Chance fracture



B2 Posterior tension band disruption



Transosseous tension



Туре С

**Translation** 

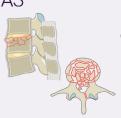
Injuries

Displacement or dislocation

Hyperextension



Complete burst

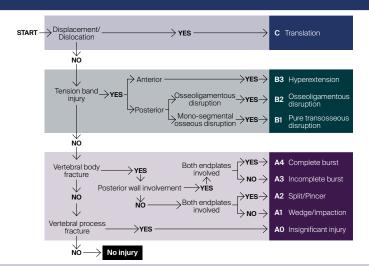


Incomplete burst





## AO Spine Thoracolumbar Injury Classification System



### Neurology

Neurology	
Туре	Neurological
NO	Neurology intact
N1	Transient neurologic deficit
N2	Radicular symptoms
N3	Incomplete spinal cord injury or any degree of cauda equina injury
N4	Complete spinal cord injury
NX	Cannot be examined
+	Continued spinal cord compression

### Modifiers

Туре	Description
M1	This modifier is used to designate fractures with an indeterminate injury to the tension band based on spinal imaging with or without MRI. This modifier is important for designating those injuries with stable injuries from a bony standpoint for which ligamentous insufficiency may help determine whether operative stabilization is a consideration.
М2	Is used to designate a patient-specific comorbidity, which might argue either for or against surgery for patients with relative surgical indications. Examples of an M2 modifier include ankylosing spondylitis or burns affecting the skin overlying the injured spine.

