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ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

The Magnitude of Angular and Translational Displacement of Dens Fractures is Dependent on the Sagittal Alignment of the Cervical Spine rather than the Force of Injury

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1 Abstract

2 Background Context: Although it is generally believed that the magnitude of dens fracture

3 displacement is proportional to the amount of force applied to the cervical spine during injury,

4 the factors responsible for displacement have not been studied.

5

- 6 *Purpose*: Our aim was to determine factors which contribute to horizontal and angular
- 7 displacement of dens fractures.

8

- 9 Study Design/Setting: We conducted a retrospective review of adult patients who were admitted
- 10 to our level one trauma center between 1/1/2008 and 12/31/2013.

11

- 12 Patient Sample: Angular and horizontal displacements of the fractured dens in 57 patients were
- 13 measured. Subjects were grouped based on mechanism of fracture: motor vehicle accident,
- 14 ground level fall, and higher falls.

15

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