

Table 1: Patient characteristics.

Number of patients	64
Gender	
Male	26 (41%)
Female	38 (59%)
Age (years) mean (SD)	80.6 (7.3)
Ethnicity	
European	61 (95%)
Māori/European	2 (3%)
American/European	1 (2%)
Charlson Comorbidity Index	
Median	2.0
(IQR)	(1.0–3.0)
Mechanism of injury	
High-energy impact	26 (41%)
Low-energy impact	38 (59%)
Acute treatment unit	
Orthopaedic trauma unit	48 (75%)
Intensive care unit	7 (11%)
Acute general medical / coronary care	4 (6%)
Oncology	3 (5%)
Surgical specialty unit [#]	2 (2%)
Type of fracture	
Odontoid type I	2 (2%)
Odontoid type II	22 (34%)
Odontoid type III	26 (41%)
Hangman's body C2	2 (3%)
Pathological	1 (2%)
Not classified	
<i>Not known</i>	6 (9%)
<i>Multiple fractures</i>	4 (6%)
<i>Complex C2/C3</i>	1 (2%)
Management of C2 fracture	
Halo Immobiliser	1* (2%)
Collar + brace	9 (14%)
Rigid collar	46 (72%)
Soft collar	6 (9%)
No collar	2 (3%)

[#] Plastic surgery or maxillofacial unit with multiple trauma.

* Patient initially treated with halo immobiliser then changed to rigid collar.