NECK INJURY

Know when to get a CTA of the chest

**Approach to Neck Injury**

1) **Blunt Neck Trauma** → Get a CT Angiogram of the neck if:
   1) Neurologic deficit present (Numbness, weakness, vision changes).
   2) Any forceful impact to the neck
   3) Any basilar skull fracture, facial bone fracture, or cervical spine fracture

2) **Penetrating Neck Trauma (Any penetration of the Platysma muscle)**
   1) Patient is unstable → Go straight to OR
   2) If stable, look for Hard signs (See Sidebar) if present go to OR
   3) If stable and no Hard signs → Get a CT Angiogram of the Neck

**References**
