Pathway-based reduction of repeat head CT for patients with complicated mild traumatic brain injury: implementation and outcomes

**Study population**
- Complicated mild TBI patients: GCS 13-15
- Head CT positive for TBI nonoperative
- Cause of injury: falls 88%
- 46% on at least one antithrombotic

**Pathway**
- To decrease routine follow-up head CT in patients with complicated mild TBI
  - Does patient have GCS 13-15?
    - No
    - Yes
      - Is patient on anticoagulation/antiplatelets other than aspirin?
        - No
        - Yes
          - Does initial head CT show either EDH or SDH >1 cm?
            - No
            - Yes
              - Triage to no repeat head CT and 6-hour observation and flu
              - Head CT only if neurological changes are observed

**Findings**
- 178 complicated mild TBI patients
  - 29%
  - 71%
- 71% of head CT scans could be avoided while achieving equivalent patient outcomes

Stippler et al. *Neurosurgery*. January 2021