Extra-axial lesions	Comment
Extradural hematoma	 Non-contrasted brain CT, axial view, soft tissue window Right-sided frontoparietal hyperdense lesion At the level of the lateral ventricles Mass effect: midline shift to contralateral side, effacement of sulci, compressed ipsilateral lateral ventricle Arterial source of bleeding, most likely middle meningeal artery Management includes craniotomy, evacuation of the hematoma, and stopping bleeding
Acute subdural hematoma	 Non-contrasted brain CT, axial view, soft tissue window Left-sided frontoparietal hyperdense lesion Lesion is crescentic in shape Mass effect: midline shift to contralateral side, effacement of sulci, compressed ipsilateral lateral ventricle Venous source of blood, most likely bridging veins

Subacute subdural hematoma	 Non-contrasted brain CT, axial view, soft tissue window Right-sided frontoparietoccipital isodense lesion Mass effect: midline shift to contralateral side, effacement of sulci, compressed ipsilateral lateral ventricle
Chronic subdural hematoma	 Non-contrasted brain CT, axial view, soft tissue window Left-sided frontopariteoccipital hypodense lesion Mass effect: midline shift to contralateral side, effacement of sulci, compressed ipsilateral lateral ventricle Venous source of blood, most likely bridging veins
Subdural hematoma	 Acute on chronic subdural hematoma Chronic subdural hematoma with sedimentation of blood

Subarachnoid hemorrhage	 (1) Non-contrasted brain CT, axial view, soft tissue window Right-sided subarachnoid hemorrhage appearing hyperdense (acute blood) Most common presentation is a traumatized patient, with a GCS of 9 (2) Spontaneous SAH; most likely due to a ruptured aneurysm A cistern is a specific dilatation of the subarachnoid space
Front of Head Back of Head Normal CT Scan Slice of Brain	

Intra-axial lesions	Comment
Brain contusion	 (1) Non-contrasted brain CT, axial view, soft tissue window Focal brain lesion in the frontal lobe Acute lesion; hyperdense lesion (intracerebral hemorrhage) surrounded by a hypodense area (edema)
	 (2) Temporal brain contusion Most likely presents with a history of trauma
Intracerebral hemorrhage	 No history of trauma Cause is most likely medical (hemorrhagic stroke) In most cases, patients are hypertensive, and may present complaining of a sudden headache Lesion is hyperdense and is surrounded by a hypodense area (edema)



Bone window



- Skull fractures are either calvarian or basal.
- Calvarian fractures (skull cap fractures) are either linear or depressed. The latter are either simple or compound.
- Basal skull fractures are linear fractures.

Fracture	Suture
Smooth edge	Serrated edge
Straight line	Curvilinear
Darker on x-ray	Lighter on x-ray
Greater in width	Smaller in width
Can be anywhere in location	In specific locations