AOSpine Subaxial Classification System

**Type A. Compression Injuries**

- **A0.** Minor, nonstructural fractures
- **A1.** Wedge-compression
- **A2.** Split
- **A3.** Incomplete burst
- **A4.** Complete burst

**Type B. Tension Band Injuries**

- **B1.** Posterior tension band injury (bony)
- **B2.** Posterior tension band injury (bony capsuloligamentous, ligamentous)
- **B3.** Anterior tension band injury
- **B4.** Pathologic subluxation or perched/dislocated facet

**Type C. Translation Injuries**

- **C.** Translational injury in any axis—displacement or translation of one vertebral body relative to another in any direction

**Type F. Facet Injuries**

- **F1.** Nondisplaced facet fracture
- **F2.** Facet fracture with potential for instability
- **F3.** Floating lateral mass
- **F4.** Pathologic subluxation or perched/dislocated facet

**BL. Bilateral Injuries**

- **BL.** Bilateral injury

Contact: research@aospine.org
Further information: www.aospine.org/classification
Algorithm for Morphologic Classification

START

Displacement/Dislocation

YES → C Translation

NO

Tension band injury

YES

Anterior → B3 Hyperextension

Posterior

Osseoligamentous disruption → B2 Osseoligamentous disruption

Mono-segmental osseous disruption

NO

Vertebral body fracture

YES

Posterior wall involvement

NO

Vertebral process fracture

YES → A4 Complete burst

NO

NO → No injury

NO

A3 Incomplete burst

A2 Split/Pincer

A1 Wedge/Impaction

A0 Insignificant injury