

CHEST TRAUMA

1. Take spinal precautions.
2. Administer high flow O₂.
3. Assist ventilation if respiratory rate < 10 or > 30.
4. Apply cardiac monitor.
5. Establish a large bore IV of NS at TKO, unless shock is present.
6. If shock is present, run fluids wide open and titrate to maintain a systolic BP of 90.
7. Treatment for specific chest injuries:
 - A. Open Chest Wound:
 - I. Apply occlusive dressing.
 - B. Tension Pneumothorax
 - I. Perform **needle thoracostomy**.*

*If there is uncertainty regarding the diagnosis, contact medical control for advice regarding needle thoracostomy.