

Abdominal Trauma

Designation of Condition: Blunt or penetrating trauma to the abdomen resulting in the following possible severe injuries: Liver/splenic laceration, aortic disruption, organ evisceration, bladder rupture, bowel injury, [pelvic fractures](#), severe internal hemorrhage.

B

ABC's with focus on ability to keep airway patent
EXPOSE PATIENT
Vital signs
Pulse Oximetry procedure
[Capnography procedure](#)
Oxygen supplementation >90%
Assist ventilations as necessary with [BVM](#)
[Spinal precautions](#) as indicated

Evisceration: Cover with clean saline soaked dressing

Control external hemorrhage and dress wounds if time available

If there is an impaled object to abdomen: DO NOT REMOVE—Stabilize with bulky dressing

If pelvis unstable with concerning mechanism and hypotension consider [pelvic binder](#)

I

IV/IO NS (two large bore preferred)
DO NOT DELAY TRANSPORT TO INITIATE IV ACCESS
If hypotensive treat per hemorrhagic [shock guideline](#) with goal SBP > 90mmhg
[Pain management](#) with [MCEP](#) contact:
[Morphine 2–5mg IV/IO/IM](#) q 5 minutes to a max of 20 mg
(0.1 mg/kg q 5 minutes to a max of 0.2 mg/kg peds)
OR
[Fentanyl 0.5–1mcg/kg IV/IO/IM/IN](#) q 5 minutes to max total dosage of 3 mcg/kg

P

Consider need for advanced airway including [cricothyrotomy](#) as indicated

[Pain management](#) as per guideline:
[Morphine 2–5mg IV/IO/IM](#) every 5 minutes max of 20 mg (0.1 mg/kg q 5 minutes to a max of 0.2 mg/kg peds)
OR
[Fentanyl 0.5–1mcg/kg IV/IO/IM/IN](#) every 5 minutes to max total dosage of 3mcg/kg

*****KEY POINT*****

Pregnant Trauma: EGA ≥ 20 weeks
Priority is mother and, ideally, all pregnant females should be transported
Inform hospital of pregnancy and EGA

Patients with any thoracic, abdominal, or pelvic complaint or injury may require prolonged fetal monitoring in hospital. Patients may be asymptomatic at time of evaluation, so maintain a high index of suspicion

Avoid supine position:
Place in left lateral recumbent position if possible

Interpret VS with caution. Pregnant patient has:
Increased heart rate
Decreased blood pressure
Increased blood volume