

**SAGINAW VALLEY
MEDICAL CONTROL AUTHORITY
PRACTICE PARAMETER**

**TRAUMA
CHEST INJURY**

FIRST RESPONDER

I. General Management

- A. Establish and maintain airway with spine stabilization, provide oxygenation and support ventilation as needed.
- B. Control hemorrhage
- C. Obtain vital signs(blood pressure, pulse and respiratory rate).
- D. For patient with diminished or absent breath sounds
 - 1. Closely monitor airway and provide for early maintenance.
 - 2. Provide high concentration of oxygen, and early assistance of ventilation, if indicated.
 - 3. Consider tension pneumothorax.¹

BASIC LIFE SUPPORT

- E. Arrange for ALS intercept.
- F. Transport toward ALS intercept, if transporting unit.

**NOTIFY RECEIVING FACILITY
(ASAP)**

ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT


- G. Monitor EKG
- H. IV NORMAL SALINE x2 if BP < 90 mmHg systolic
 - 1. Large bore catheter at least 18g
 - 2. Run wide open until BP is 90-100 mmHg systolic or 1500cc infused, then maintain flow at 100 cc per hour.

CONTACT MEDICAL CONTROL

- I. Pleural Decompress, if indicated.

¹ Tension pneumothorax = buildup of air pressure within the thorax. By compressing the lung, it severely reduces the effectiveness of respiration.

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