T060 CHEST TRAUMA

EMT	AEMT	EMT-I	Paramedic

Complete care and interventions specific to chest trauma

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Document serial respiratory exams in all patients with suspected chest trauma

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If unable to effectively oxygenate and ventilate with basic airway maneuvers, consider advanced airway

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Consider tension pneumothorax and chest needle decompression when the following clinical indicators are present:

- Severe respiratory distress
- Hypotension
- Unilateral absent or decreased breath sounds

Needle decompression is not indicated for a simple pneumothorax

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For open chest wounds apply Hyfin occlusive dressing or other commercial chest seal.

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If hypotension for age and/or signs of poor perfusion see Traumatic Shock protocol

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Consider pain management

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Continue General Trauma Care protocol