8110 CHEST TRAUMA

EMR	EMT	EMT-IV	AEMT	INTERMEDIATE	PARAMEDIC

- General Trauma Care
- Transport to Trauma Center

Are you able to oxygenate and ventilate effectively?

No →

Consider advanced airway if adequate ventilation and oxygenation cannot be achieved with basic airway maneuvers

Ref. Obstructed Airway

BLS airway preferred in pediatrics

Ref. Needle Thoracostomy
tension pneumothorax

Yes ↓

Penetrating trauma?

Yes → Transport & stabilize en route → For open sucking chest wounds - 3 sided occlusive dressing or agency approved device

No ↓

Large bore IV
consider 2nd line

Flail Chest?

Yes → Assess need for assisted ventilations

No ↓

- Impaled objects obstructing airway may be removed. Ref. Obstructed Airway
- Stabilize and leave all other impaled objects for transport

Hypotension for age?

Yes → Ref. Traumatic Shock en route

No ↓

Monitor:
- ABCs
- VS
- Mental status
- SpO_2
- $ETCO_2$

Tension pneumothorax should be suspected with presence of the following:

- Unilateral absent breath sounds with JVD, hypotension, OR difficult/unable to ventilate
- Needle decompression is NOT indicated for simple pneumothorax