

CHEST TRAUMA

I. TREATMENT:

- A. ABC's
- B. Oxygen 15 liters/minute via non-rebreathing mask.
- C. If open chest wound, cover with Vaseline impregnated gauze and tape on three sides loosely. If signs of tension pneumothorax develop, remove the dressing, allow for air to escape and reapply dressing.
- D. Flail Chest - You may use your hand or a pillow to make the patient more comfortable by stabilizing the injured area. Remove the pressure if respirations deteriorate or if the pressure does not help the pain. Assist ventilation as needed.
- E. Do not remove impaled objects.
- F. Consider spine immobilization.