


Marquette County EMS Medical Control Authority

Part 1 Section 1

TRAUMA - Chest

LALS ALS Protocol

ABCDE
100% Oxygen
Evaluate airway while maintaining c-spine stabilization and complete General Trauma evaluation
See BLS Protocols

Document: 

- ABCDE
- Detailed Assessment
- Vital Signs
- SpO2
- Glasgow Coma Scale
- Motor Function
- Neurologic Deficits
- Lung Sounds
- Skin Color
- Treatment
- Response to Treatment
- Communication with Medical Control

Evaluate Breathing

Correct hypoxia immediately with high flow **oxygen** via NRB mask, and assist respirations with BVM if indicated.

Continually reassess respiratory status, bilateral breath sounds, neck vein distention, tracheal deviation and presence of subcutaneous emphysema.

Use advanced airway if patient becomes apneic or develops respiratory depression (ET, Combi-tube). Advise Medical Control of patient status.

Clinical Signs of Shock?

Yes
See Shock Protocol. If LALS, request ALS. Start large bore (14 or 16 g) IV of LR or NS to maintain BP >90 mmHg systolic. Start second large bore IV if indicated. Attach cardiac monitor.

No

Continual reassessment of respiratory status

Decompress chest if tension pneumothorax is present (dyspnea, absent breath sounds, deviated trachea, distended neck veins, subcutaneous emphysema.) See Tension Pneumothorax Procedure. Contact Medical Control.


If evaluation reveals:

1. Simple rib fractures - position of comfort and transport.
2. Flail chest - stabilize flail segment and assist respirations as necessary.
3. Open Pneumothorax - seal with gloved hand, then semi-occlusive dressing on three sides.
4. Tension Pneumothorax (open) - unseal dressed wound until pressurized air escapes, then reseat.
5. Tension pneumothorax (closed) - See Decompression Procedure (Part 1, Sec. 2)
5. Impaled Object - leave and secure in place.
6. Tension pneum, hemothorax, myocardial contusion, cardiac tamponade - Rapid transport.

Immobilize position patient appropriately

Confirm neurological signs before and after immobilization

Contact Medical Control for direction on patient destination and definitive treatment

Authentication And Approval :

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Marquette County EMS Medical Director
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LALS-ALS