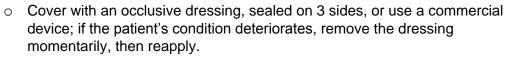
## Thoracic Injuries Adult & Pediatric

## EMT/ADVANCED EMT STANDING ORDERS

- Routine Patient Care.
- If in shock, see Shock Traumatic Protocol 4.4.
- Impaled Objects:
  - Secure in place with a bulky dressing.
- Open chest wound:



- Flail segment with paradoxical movement and in respiratory distress:
  - o Consider positive-pressure ventilation.
  - o Do not splint the chest.
- Consider Air Medical Transport.

## PARAMEDIC STANDING ORDERS



- Consider pain management, see Pain Management Protocols 2.17A&P.
- In presence of tension pneumothorax\*, perform needle decompression using ≥ 3.25 inch angiocath. Repeat decompression may be necessary with returned signs of tension pneumothorax.

\*Signs and symptoms of Tension Pneumothorax:

- Asymmetric or absent unilateral breath sounds
- Increasing respiratory distress or hypoxia
- Increasing signs of shock including tachycardia and hypotension
- JVD
- Possible tracheal deviation above the sternal notch (late sign)