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Simple thoracostomy. Moving beyond needle decompression in traumatic cardiac arrest.

Karrer A, Monroe BJ, Gleisberg GR, Cosper J, Kimmel K, Escott ME

Conclusion:

“Simple thoracostomy in our system has been developed as a safe method for extensively trained paramedics to resolve the potentially life-threatening condition of tension pneumothorax and associated traumatic cardiac arrest. Effective deployment of this procedure in an EMS service is dependent on stakeholder buy-in, appropriate training, frequent retraining, and 100% quality review. In the future, we’ll publish the result(s) from our research-developed protocol, training, deployment and quality review.”