TRAUMA CHEST TUBES

1. Daily chest X-ray.
2. Chest X-ray 6 hours with pull
3. Chest X-ray 6 hours with change (ie: suction to water seal or pull).
4. Chest X-ray 1 day post tube out, if still here.
5. Chest X-ray, PA and lateral views on clinic follow-up.
6. PA & Lat preferred over mobile film.

HEMOTHORAX IN STABLE PATIENTS

1. Appropriate sized chest tube for the adult is placed.
2. Output > 1 L, notify attending immediately.
3. Output less than 1 L, place chest tube on suction and order follow-up CXR.
4. AT 24 hours, if still retained hemothorax, consider second tube.
5. If by 48 hours, second tube in and still retained hemothorax on CT scan, consider VATS evaluation.