



Pneumothorax

A

Cardiopulmonary status

Hemodynamically or Physiologically abnormal attributed to Ptx

Hemodynamically/Physiologically Normal

Chest Drainage with 1 dose of pre-procedural antibiotics

Finger thoracostomy or needle decompression may be performed if awaiting placement of drain. If open technique used small bore 20-28Fr tubes are acceptable. May also use 14Fr percutaneous chest tube

Evaluate size of Ptx by CTscan or CXR: Measurement of Ptx on CTscan: Radial line drawn perpendicular to chest wall in largest air pocket on axial imaging: see text

≤35mm on CTscan or ≤20% on CXR

Observe with repeat imaging in 6 hours regardless if patient is on positive pressure or not

C

> 35mm on CTscan or > 20% on CXR

Chest drainage with 1 dose of pre-procedural antibiotics: 28 Fr tube with open technique or 8-14 percutaneous catheter if isolated Ptx

B