



Competency: Chest Tube Insertion & Maintenance

Competency Statement: Qualified RNs, LPNs, and ER Technicians will demonstrate proficiency in the set up and maintenance of chest tube drainage systems

CRITERIA	MET	NOT MET
1. Lists insertion criteria for chest tubes		
2. Assembles all relevant equipment and supplies for insertion.		
3. Sets up equipment and supplies for insertion maintaining aseptic technique.		
4. Preps insertion site aseptically per facility policy.		
5. Follows manufacturer’s directions for setting up drainage system to maintain chest tube post insertion (ALWAYS KEEPS DRAINAGE SYSTEM BELOW LEVEL OF LUNG)		
6. If ordered by MD, correctly attaches drainage system to wall suction and regulates pressure.		
7. Dresses insertion site per facility policy. Secures tubing to patient to prevent dislodgement.		
8. Documents initial and subsequent drainage appearance and quantity in progress notes.		
9. Documents patency of chest tube in terms of bubbling and tidaling in chamber.		
10. Discusses troubleshooting techniques and how to change system as necessary.		
11. Documentation reflects troubleshooting techniques employed and their outcomes, physician contact, etc.		
<p>AGE SPECIFIC CONSIDERATIONS: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Neonate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pediatric <input type="checkbox"/> Adolescent <input type="checkbox"/> Geriatric <input type="checkbox"/> N/A</p> <p>Specify: Smaller chest tubes are usually used for neonates and small children.</p>		

PRECEPTOR SIGNATURE: _____ **DATE:** _____

PRECEPTEE SIGNATURE: _____ **DATE:** _____