



Chest Seal

EMT-Basic

Advanced EMT

Paramedic

PROCEDURE

- Assess for penetrating trauma to the abdominal (diaphragmatic injury) and thoracic cavity
- Opening the packaging for the vented chest seal
- Place the vented chest seal over the sucking chest wound
- Push down on all sides to get an appropriate seal
- Make sure that the vent is free of obstruction
- Monitor vital signs and oxygen levels, provide support as needed

REFERENCE GRAPHICS



KEY POINTS

- Sucking chest wounds are caused because of the difference in intrathoracic pressure and atmospheric pressure
- Carefully monitor the seal so that it does not become occluded, this can cause a tension pneumothorax
- Positive pressure ventilations will likely be required, consider supporting respirations with a BVM