APPROVED:	SIGNATURE ON FILE IN EMS OFFICE	EFFECTIVE DATE:	02/02/2004
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	Medical Director	PAGE:	1 OF 1

PEDIATRIC CHEST TRAUMA

I. AUTHORITY: Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9

II. PURPOSE: To serve as the treatment standard for EMT-Is and EMT-Ps in treating patients.

III. PROTOCOL:

STANDING ORDERS	
ABC's	
SECURE AIRWAY/INTUBATE	Use simplest effective method while maintaining c-spine. A BLS airway with objective evidence of good ventilation and oxygenation is adequate and acceptable. Consider intubating while en route. Confirm tube placement, if intubated, with end-tidal CO_2 detector and esophageal detector device. **Continuous waveform capnography should be used in all intubated patients, if available.**
SPINE IMMOBILIZATION	If indicated, refer to ALS Intro 554.00
OXYGEN	
IV/IO ACCESS	TKO with microdrip tubing and volume control chamber. If signs of shock, 20 ml/kg fluid bolus until Broselow Tape systolic BP target. Reassess patient after each bolus.
DRESS & SPLINT	As needed.
CONSIDERATIONS	
• **Impaled Object**	Immobilize and leave in place. Remove object only if it interferes with CPR, extrication, or ventilation
• **Flail Chest**	Stabilize chest. Observe for tension pneumothorax. Consider assisted ventilation.
• **Open Chest Wound**	Cover wound. Dress wound loosely (do not seal). Continuously re-evaluate patient for tension pneumothorax.
• **Tension Pneumothorax**	Perform needle thoracostomy or remove any occlusive dressing on an open chest wound. Refer to the Traumatic Shock Protocol Policy 555.82
• **Cardiac Tamponade**	If systolic BP below Broselow Tape target, give 20 ml/kg fluid boluses until systolic BP reaches target. Reassess the patient after each bolus. Refer to the Traumatic Shock Policy 555.82
• **Cardiac Contusion**	Monitor for dysrhythmias. Refer to Cardiac Protocols (Policy 555.11, 555.12, 555.13, 555.14, and 555.15)
BASE PHYSICIAN ORDERS	
MORPHINE:	1-2 mg IV slow push (if systolic BP above Broselow Tape target), then 1.0 mg increments slow IV, to relieve pain. May repeat as needed.