

**FOOTHILL COLLEGE EMS PROGRAMS
OPEN CHEST WOUND
SKILLS LAB**

PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVE

Student will demonstrate their ability to assess and treat a patient suffering a penetrating chest wound. When performing this skill, students must complete it within 10 minutes. Taking more than 10 minutes is a “FAIL” for this skill.

CONDITIONS

The patient is conscious but anxious, supine and gasping. The scene is safe.

EQUIPMENT

EMS Jump Bag Bandages, Gauze, tape Blood pressure cuff Stethoscope PPE
Occlusive dressing

STANDARDS

The standards are incorporated into the checklist to be used by the scorer.

SKILLS PRACTICE SHEET
States - “I would perform PENMAN”
Describes General Impression – States “Signs and symptoms of airway obstruction include tachypnea, stridor, anxiety, and accessory muscles use. The patient appears unstable.”
Introduces self- States “Hello, my name is _____, I’m an EMT. I’m going to help you.”
Perform: Assess the airway for patency and for adequate breathing.”
Perform: “Find the penetrating chest wound, expose the chest and seal the wound with a gloved hand”. States: “I would also assess if there is an exit wound”
States: “I would have my partner check for severe external bleeding and assess circulation, and initiate c-spine precautions if appropriate.”
Selects materials and applies an occlusive dressing to the wound.
Perform a lung sound assessment: Proctor will inform you, “Lung sounds are diminished on the injured side. Student States: I would assess tracheal deviation, I would also assess JVD.”
States: I would apply the appropriate O2 therapy.
States: “I would obtain SPO2”
States: “I would reassess for tension pneumothorax.”
States: “I would treat for shock, and maintain body temperature.”
Perform: Positions Patient-States: “I would place the patient in a position to facilitate breathing and protect the injury.”
States: “Transport code” The will inform the proctor what the transport code would be.

Critical Criteria:

- ___ Failure to state I would perform PENMAN
- ___ Failure to recognize shock
- ___ Failure to position patient based on need for spinal precautions, if needed
- ___ Failure to reassess the patient and provide supportive care
- ___ Failure to manage patient as a competent EMT
- ___ Fails to apply chest seal in 10 minutes