



1811

## BLS Chest Seal

Nor-Cal EMS Policy &amp; Procedure Manual

BLS Procedures

Effective Date: 03/01/2025

Next Revision: 03/01/2028

Approval: Jeffrey Kepple MD – MEDICAL DIRECTOR

SIGNATURE ON FILE

### INDICATIONS

- Penetrating chest trauma from neck to navel, on the front, side, or back of the chest.
- Bubbly wounds that appear to be sucking air in and out.
- Trouble breathing due to a chest wound.
- Managing penetrating chest wounds to prevent tension pneumothorax.

### CONTRAINDICATIONS

- No Contraindications

### PRECAUTIONS

- No Precautions

### PROCEDURES

- Expose the patient's chest.
- Wipe away blood and other fluids to identify the wound location.
- Apply the chest seal, following manufacturer directions, over the wound.
- Assess the opposite side of the patient's chest, as well as the sides of the chest, for an exit wound.
- If there is an exit wound, apply another chest seal.
- Monitor Patients breathing.

#### Application Of Chest Seal



### KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Monitor for tension pneumothorax.
- Chest Seal allows for air to escape to decrease intrathoracic pressure.