

FIRST RESPONDER INITIAL CERTIFICATION/LICENSURE OR RE-LICENSING PRACTICAL EVALUATION

3.12 Abdominal Injury

Key Performance Outcomes

- Manage an open abdominal injury with an embedded object

Patient Instructions

C/C:	"I'm having trouble breathing"
Hx/C/C:	You were assaulted and stabbed in the upper abdomen by a knife. You got into an argument with someone in the night club and after some pushing and shoving he pulled out a knife and stabbed you.
Pain Assessment (PQRST)	Pain just under your rib cage in a line directly below your right nipple, dull ache, does not radiate, 6/10 for severity, happened approximately 10 minutes ago
Relevant symptoms:	You are having trouble breathing and the pain increases on inspiration
Relevant past Med Hx:	None
Medications:	None
Allergies:	Demerol
Other:	The knife is still embedded in your abdomen If asked, you have no idea how long the knife blade is You have no other injuries If asked, you have consumed 6 beer over the last two hours

Scenario Information

Dispatch Information

Dispatched to the alley behind a local night club for an assault

Scene Information

The police are on scene and have the area secure. They direct you to the patient. You see a male patient sitting and leaning up against the side of the building. He is wearing a "hoody" which you notice is soaked with blood. You also notice the handle of a knife protruding from the patient's abdomen. The area is well lit.

Witnessed or Secondary Information (as required)

Know one knows how long the knife blade is

Criteria	Relevant findings	Required actions
RSE	Safe	Ensure police have the area secured
LOC	Alert but anxious	Calm and reassure patient
D	None	Determine mechanism of injury, rule out spinal injury
A	Open and clear	
B	Mild shortness of breath but adequate	
C	Radial pulse present but rapid and weak	
RBS	Knife embedded in upper abdomen just below rib cage. Moderate bleeding coming from around knife	Find injury and embedded object
Critical Interventions	Open abdominal injury with a embedded knife	Do not remove knife. Apply gentle pressure to wound (around the base of the knife) using sterile dressings and bulky dressings. Secure as best as possible. Position the patient supine with the head and shoulders raised and the knees flexed
C/C	"I'm having trouble breathing"	
HX C/C	Stabbed in the upper abdomen by a knife after being in an argument with another night club patron	
Med Hx	None	
Medication	None	
Allergies	Demerol	
Vital Signs	Initial Set	Second Set (if applicable)
	LOC Alert but anxious	LOC Alert
	PULSE 110 weak and regular	PULSE 110 weak and regular
	RESP 24 shallow	RESP 24 shallow
	SKIN Pale, cool, and clammy	SKIN Pale, cool, and clammy
Other/Misc.		Oxygen therapy as soon as practical