

Patient CC

Automobile versus motorcycle
accident

History

- 44 year old male driver of motorcycle which was hit by automobile. Apparently patient had a traumatic arrest at the scene. CPR was done by a bystander. Patient was revived and brought to the Emergency Department

Examination: Primary Survey

- Vitals
 - BP 100/40
 - Pulse 133
 - Respirations 36
 - Saturation 84%
 - GCS = 14
- Respiratory distress, complaining of severe pain on left side

Examination

- No breath sounds left chest
- Swollen left chest wall with subcutaneous crepitus
- Severe pain and deformity left shoulder, arm, wrist and thigh with evidence of long bone fracture

Diagnostics: Chest XRay

Procedure

- Chest tube placed on left chest which drained 2,000cc of blood
- Patient was autotransfused and also given 2 units of O blood
- 3 large bore IVs were placed

Surgery: Left thoracostomy

- Lung found to be macerated into small pieces resulting in massive bleeding
- Subtotal pneumonectomy done
- Patient received 7 units of blood
- 8000cc crystalloid
- 2 units of fresh frozen plasma
- 10 units of platelets

Post-Operative

- Swan-Ganz catheter placed for monitoring
- CT scans done: negative
- Patient left on ventilator for 1 week because of extent of injury
- Repair of fractures 8 days after thoracostomy

Post-Operative Issues

- ARDS (acute respiratory distress syndrome)
- Nutrition → gastrostomy
- Ventilatory support → tracheostomy

Learning Issues