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*** PARAMEDIC ALERT ***

No. 2015-01

Date: March 12, 2015

Topic: Needle Chest Decompression Guidelines

Effective: Immediately

Attention: All EDC Paramedics

The following equipment shall be used for decompression of tension pneumothorax:

Adult patients: 3.25" 14-10 gauge over-the-needle catheter

Pediatric patients: 2" - 2.5" 16 - 18 gauge over-the-needle catheter

The EMS Minimum Equipment Policy and the NCD Procedure will both be updated to meet this new guideline.

David Brazzel, Medical Director

