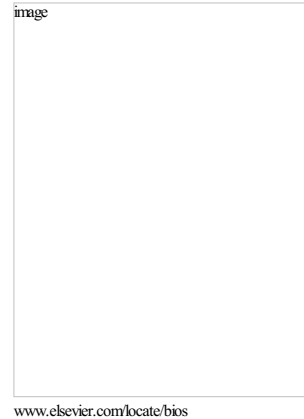


Imaging and Management of Thoracic Trauma

Alex Newbury, Jon D. Dorfman, Hao S. Lo



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Imaging and Management of Thoracic Trauma

Alex Newbury, MS; Jon D. Dorfman, MD; Hao S. Lo, MD

Department of Radiology (A.N., H.S.L.), Department of Surgery (J.D.D.) University of Massachusetts Medical School. UMass Memorial Medical Center. Worcester, MA

Correspondence: Hao S. Lo, MD, Department of Radiology. University of Massachusetts Medical School, UMass Memorial Medical Center. 55 Lake Ave North Worcester MA 01655.
E-mail: Hao.Lo@umassmemorial.org

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Abstract

Thoracic injury results from penetrating and blunt trauma and is a major contributor to overall trauma morbidity and mortality in the United States. Modern imaging algorithms utilize ultrasound, CXR, and CT with intravenous contrast to accurately diagnose and effectively treat patients with acute thoracic trauma. This review focuses on the etiologies, signs and symptoms, imaging, and management of several life-threatening thoracic injuries including tracheobronchial rupture, pulmonary parenchymal injury, hemothorax, pneumothorax, diaphragmatic rupture, and axial skeleton injury.

Keywords: Blunt thoracic trauma, penetrating thoracic trauma, diaphragmatic rupture, chest wall injury, pneumothorax, pulmonary parenchymal injury, tracheobronchial rupture

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