

# Trauma Nursing Process (TNP)

## Preparation and Triage

- Activate trauma team
- Prepare the room and any special equipment
- Don PPE and consider need for decontamination

## Across-the-Room Observation

- Uncontrolled bleeding? Reprioritize to <C> ABC

## Primary Survey [ABCDEFG] “When you mess, reassess”

### **A\*\* Alertness (A<sub>1</sub>) and Airway (A<sub>2</sub>)**

- Maintain cervical spinal stabilization
- AVPU (Alert, Verbal, Pain, Unresponsive)
- Assess airway patency (at least FOUR)

### **B\*\* Breathing and Ventilation**

- Assess breathing effectiveness (at least FOUR)

### **C\*\* Circulation and Control of Hemorrhage**

- Assess for uncontrolled hemorrhage, central pulse, skin color/temperature/moisture (ALL THREE)

### **D\*\* Disability (Neurologic Status)**

- Glasgow Coma Scale
- Pupils
- \*Consider head CT for any abnormalities

### **E\*\* Exposure (E<sub>1</sub>) and Environmental Control (E<sub>2</sub>)**

- Remove clothing, provide warmth

**\*\*Double-starred items must be completed IN ORDER prior to moving to the next step.**

**\*Single-starred items are essential steps and must be performed, but sequence is not critical.**

## **F Full Set of Vital Signs (F<sub>1</sub>) and Family Presence (F<sub>2</sub>)**

## **G Get Monitoring Devices (G<sub>1</sub>) and Give Comfort (G<sub>2</sub>) [LMNOP]**

**L** Labs: blood typing, blood gases, and lactate

**M** Monitor

**N** Naso- or orogastric tube

**O** Wean Oxygen based on Oximetry and assess capnography (required if sedated or intubated)

**P\*** Pain assessment AND management

## Reevaluation for Transfer to Trauma Center or Preparation for Definitive Treatment

## Secondary Survey [HI]

### **H History (H<sub>1</sub>) and Head-2-Toe (H<sub>2</sub>) Exam**

- History (H<sub>1</sub>)—Prehospital report, patient- or family-generated, from electronic health record
- Head-2-Toe Assessment (H<sub>2</sub>)

### **I\* Inspect Posterior Surfaces**

- Unless contraindicated by suspected spine or pelvic injury—turn, inspect and palpate, remove backboard

## Anticipated Interventions or Diagnostics

- At least THREE

## Just Keep Reevaluating

- Vital signs
- Identified injuries and effectiveness of interventions
- Primary assessment
- Pain

## Definitive Care or Transport