

NURSING 202 – ADVANCED CONCEPTS OF NURSING
CLASS PREP - CHEST TRAUMA: CHEST TUBES & DRAINAGE SYSTEMS

It is important for the nurse to provide competent care when the patient has a chest tube. Independently review chest tube care and answer the following questions.

1. What should be your focal assessments for a patient with a chest tube?

Ensure tubing isn't kinked, respiratory assessment including lung sounds, RR, Spo2.

2. Define the term "tidaling".

Water leveling changing in water chamber.

3. Why might tidaling fail to occur?

poor seal of tube

4. Define/describe the term "bubbling".

Bubbling in water chamber of chest tube.

5. What causes bubbling?

air leak between tubing a patient.

6. What is an acceptable safety measure regarding tubing connections for chest tubes and drainage tubing?

Ensure no kinking, chamber is upright

7. What is the generally ordered suction pressure for a chest tube drainage system?

low between 15-20

8. What pressure should you set the wall suction regulator to?

intermittent

9. What type of dressing would be used for a chest tube dressing?

transparent

10. Name 2 priority nursing diagnoses when providing care to the patient who has a chest tube.

Impaired gas exchange

Ineffective breathing pattern