

# Clinical Practice Guideline (CPG) Rib Fracture Admission Guideline

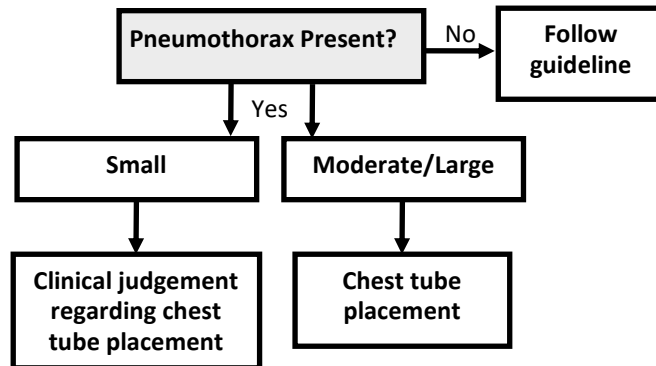
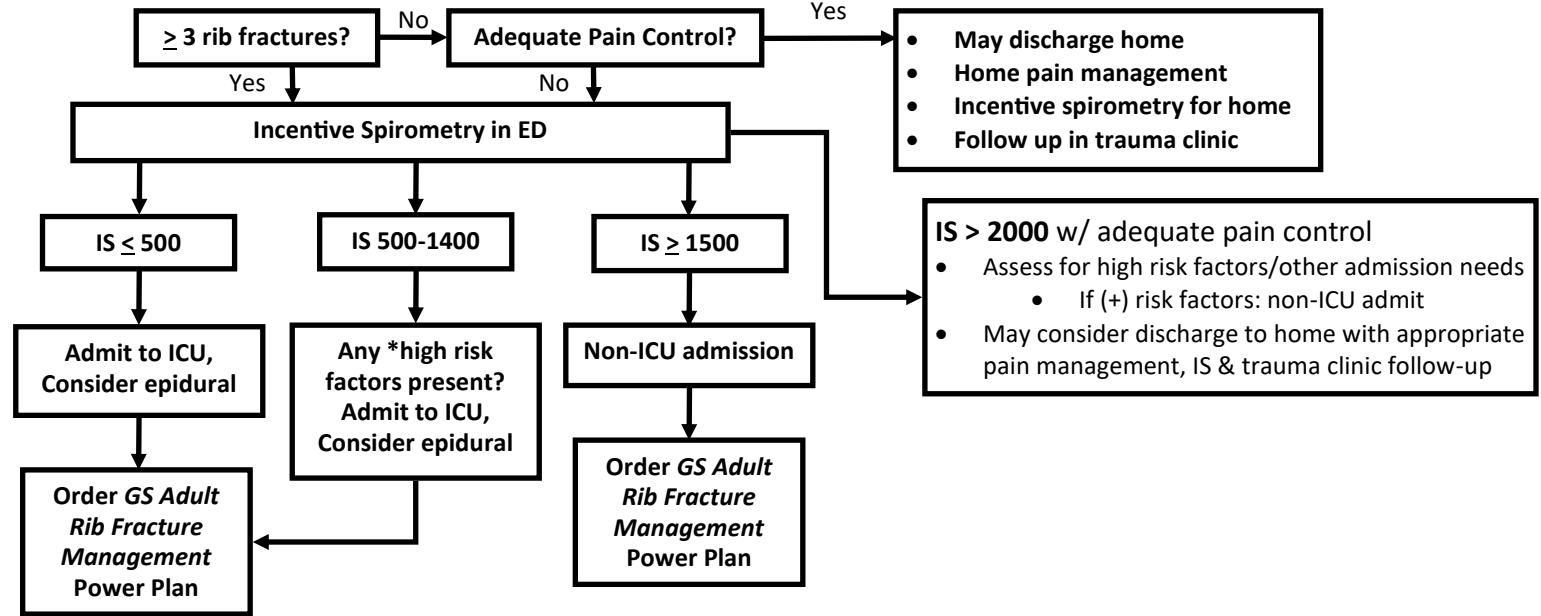
Physician clinical judgement  
supersedes this guideline

Original Date: 2014

Latest Approval: 1/2/2026

**\*HIGH RISK FACTORS**

- Age > 65
- Significant pulmonary comorbidities (COPD, asthma, CHF, sleep apnea, etc.)
- Morbid obesity
- SpO2 < 94% (requiring supplemental O2)
- PaCO2 < 30



**For rib stabilization consideration refer to:  
Billings Clinic Surgical Stabilization of Rib Fractures Guideline**

**References:**

American College of Surgeons. (2025). *Best Practice Guideline Management of Chest Wall Injuries*. [https://www.facs.org/media/qdgliayt/2025\\_tr\\_bestpracticesguidelines\\_chest-wall.pdf](https://www.facs.org/media/qdgliayt/2025_tr_bestpracticesguidelines_chest-wall.pdf)

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Karlson, K. A., & French, A. (2022) Initial evaluation and management of rib fractures. UpToDate. <https://www.uptodate.com/contents/initial-evaluation-and-management-of-rib-fractures#H12>