DO NOT FORGET · THE SHORT CHECKLIST



Ultrasound: eFAST, aorta and vascular access

Point-of-care ultrasound to detect free fluid, pericardial fluid, pneumothorax and haemothorax in trauma (eFAST), screen the abdominal aorta for aneurysm, and guide vascular access.

EM Orbit

Patient reference	Date	Time	Completed by

The 2 steps that must not be missed

- [ ] DURING

Do not use ultrasound to exclude rupture: a patient with an aneurysm and hypotension, pain or collapse must be referred immediately to vascular surgery.

Retroperitoneal haemorrhage is usually not visible on ultrasound.

- [ ] AFTER

A negative FAST does not exclude intra-abdominal, retroperitoneal, bowel or diaphragmatic injury.

Use CT in the stable patient and repeat the scan if the condition changes.

The short list: an aid to memory, not the whole procedure. The full checklist is at the QR code. It does not replace your local protocol or your clinical judgement.