DO NOT FORGET · THE SHORT CHECKLIST



Ultrasound: lung and pleura

Bedside ultrasound of the lungs and pleural spaces to look for pneumothorax, pleural effusion, consolidation and interstitial (B-line) disease in the breathless, hypotensive or injured patient.

EM Orbit

Patient reference	Date	Time	Completed by

The 2 steps that must not be missed

- [ ] DURING

Do not diagnose pneumothorax from absent lung sliding alone.

Absent sliding also occurs in right main-stem intubation, bullae, pleurodesis, pleural adhesions, severe fibrosis and apnoea.

- [ ] DURING

Do not delay needle or finger decompression and chest drainage in a tension pneumothorax to obtain an ultrasound image.



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.