“The Facts” About Milking And Stripping

• “‘Milking’ or ‘stripping’ an occluded chest tube is no longer recommended because it increases the negative pressure in the intrathoracic cavity, which could damage lung tissue.”¹
  - Association of periOperative Registered Nurses (AORN) Journal

• “…stripping chest tubes may significantly increase negative intrathoracic pressures that could cause harm (e.g. tissue entrapment, increased bleeding, left ventricular dysfunction), thereby further impairing patients’ postoperative recovery.”²
  - American Journal of Critical Care

• “We conclude that due to possible tissue damage and lack of demonstrable benefit, in most patients drainage tube manipulation should not be performed.”³
  - Interactive Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgery

• “…76 of 106 responding nurses (71.7%) asserted that stripping the chest tube was not allowed as a means to manage the clogged chest tube at their institution.”⁴
  - Journal of Cardiac Surgery

• “…the body of current knowledge may be summarized as representing “Class III” evidence...Chest tube manipulation did not show any clear benefit in enhancing chest tube patency.”²
  - American Journal of Critical Care
SOLUTION: The PleuraFlow® Active Clearance Technology® System proactively clears chest tubes of clots and prevents the retention of retained blood and fluids in the chest cavity.

- Multiple published peer-reviewed studies show data that would constitute Class I, Level B evidence demonstrating superiority of active clearance over conventional chest tube drainage.\(^5,6,7\)

From the *Journal of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery (JTCVS)*:
- Patients treated with the PleuraFlow® ACT® System experienced:
  - 43% reduction in Retained Blood complications such as bloody pleural and pericardial effusions\(^7\)
  - 33% reduction in post-operative atrial fibrillation (POAF)\(^7\)

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For more information about the PleuraFlow ACT System, please contact ClearFlow Customer Service: 1-714-916-5007, or visit www.clearflow.com/education