"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

... 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.4

American Journal of Critical Care

The PleuraFlow® Active Clearance Technology® System is the only FDA cleared device indicated to proactively maintain chest tube patency while preserving the sterile field.

The PleuraFlow® ACT® System can provide the confidence of ongoing chest tube patency maintenance in the ICU as well as a way to respond quickly when a chest tube occlusion with tamponade is noticed.4

Study showing time spent on managing chest tubes in the first 24 hours of postoperative ICU care5

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>First 4 hours post-op</th>
<th>First 24 hours post-op</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Standard/Conventional Chest Tubes</td>
<td>7 MIN</td>
<td>29 MIN</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Estimated time spent on maintaining chest tube patency in the first 24 hours of postoperative ICU care

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>First 4 hours post-op</th>
<th>First 24 hours post-op</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PleuraFlow® ACT® System</td>
<td>3 MIN</td>
<td>10 MIN</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To learn more, please request a CE course at www.clearflow.com/education


For more information:
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