1. Overview
   - A small incision of the chest wall, with maintenance of the opening for drainage. It is most commonly used for the treatment of a pneumothorax. This is performed by usually via needle thoracostomy or with a thoracostomy tube (chest tube).

2. Goal of the Procedure
   - Drainage of the pleural cavity is achieved by making a primary incision in the skin followed by a second incision through the muscle between the ribs. This way a tube may be guided into the chest to allow for drainage. Chest tubes are designed to collect this drainage and prevent anything from leaking back into the pleural space.

3. Reference(s)

4. Required Reading / Review
   To access the Clinical Key webpages listed below use the Direct Link Generator and use the second box on the page (below the OR) to put in the following URLs (one at a time) then click “show URL” to generate a link to the information (if the page does not display click on the generated link again)
   - https://www.clinicalkey.com/#!/content/medical_procedure/19-s2.0-mp_IM-007
   - https://www.clinicalkey.com/#!/content/medical_procedure/19-s2.0-mp_EM-013
   - https://www-clinicalkey-com.ezproxy3.library.arizona.edu/#!/content/book/3-s2.0-B9780323089296000159

5. Required Procedure Competencies
   - Assures that needed supplies are at bedside before beginning procedure.
   - Demonstrates positioning mannequin properly for tube thoracostomy:
   - Verbalizes need for cap, gown and gloves to be worn for procedure. Only gloves need to be worn for purposes of simulation.
   - Completes tube thoracostomy satisfactorily (for the purposes of simulation, student should verbalize need for skin prep).
   - Properly sutures and secures catheter. Applies occlusive dressing and attaches chest tube to a drainage apparatus (verbalizes this step for simulation).
   - Disposes of all used materials appropriately, including sharps.
   - Confirms patient tolerated procedure, is comfortable and has no questions.
   - Orders post-procedure chest radiograph.