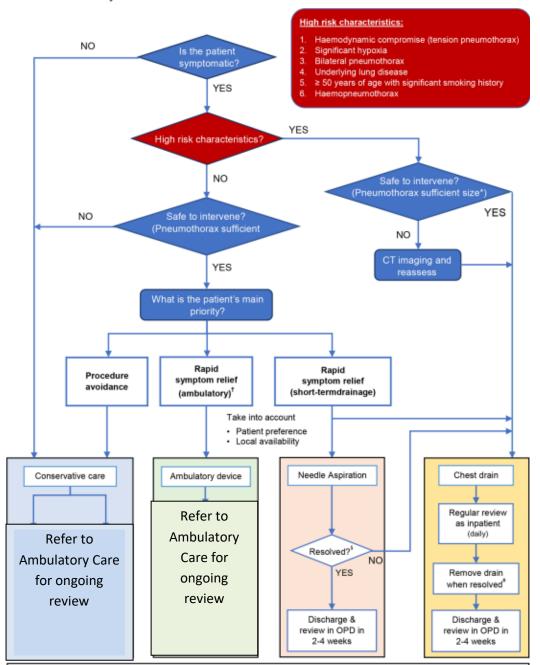


Amended BTS Pneumothorax Pathway 2023

Pneumothorax Pathway



- * Pneumothorax of sufficient size to intervene depends on clinical context but, in general, usually ≥ 2cm laterally or apically on CXR, or any size on CT scan which can be safely accessed with radiological support.
- † If ambulatory pathway available locally.
- * At review, if enlarging pneumothorax or symptoms consider chest drain insertion and admission.
- Success: improvement in symptoms and sustained improvement on CXR.
- * Talc pleurodesis can be considered on the first episode of pneumothorax in high risk patients in whom repeat pneumothorax would be hazardous (eg. severe COPD).

CXR, chest X-ray; COPD, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease; OPD, outpatient department; PSP, primary spontan thorax; SSP, secondary spontaneous pneumothorax.