

## ATLS POST TEST 2023-2024 ACTUAL EXAM QUESTIONS AND CORRECT DETAILED ANSWERS WITH RATIONALES (VERIFIED ANSWERS) |ALREADY GRADED A+

1. Cardiac tamponade after trauma
  - a. is seldom life-threatening
  - b. can be excluded by an upright, AP chest x-ray
  - c. **can be confused with a tension pneumothorax**
  - d. causes a fall in systolic pressure of > 15 mm Hg with expiration
  - e. most commonly occurs after blunt injury to the anterior chest wall
2. Which one of the following statements regarding patients with thoracic spine injuries is TRUE?
  - a. Log-rolling may be destabilizing to fractures from T-12 to L-1.
  - b. Adequate immobilization can be accomplished with the scoop stretcher.
  - c. Spinal cord injury below T-10 usually spares bowel and bladder function.
  - d. **Hyperflexion fractures in the upper thoracic spine are inherently unstable.**
  - e. These patients rarely present with spinal shock in association with cord injury.
3. Absence of breath sounds and dullness to percussion over the left hemithorax are findings best explained by
  - a. **Left hemothorax.**
  - b.
  - c.
  - d.
  - e.
  - f.
  - g. cardiac contusion
  - h. left simple pneumothorax
  - i. left diaphragmatic rupture
  - j. right tension pneumothorax.
4. A young man sustains a gunshot wound to the abdomen and is brought

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promptly to the emergency department by prehospital personnel. His skin is cool and diaphoretic, and he is confused. His pulse is thready and his femoral

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