













ABCDE Assessment Tool

 A irway			Assess <i>For signs of complete or partial obstruction. Consider C-spine stabilisation/precautions</i>		
Look		Listen		Feel	
Drooling, paradoxical chest movement, cyanosis, choking, laryngospasm		Stridor, snoring, hoarse voice, gurgling		Trachea midline	
 B reathing			Assess <i>For signs of hypoxia, respiratory distress or abnormal breathing</i>		
Look		Listen		Feel	
RATES Respiratory rate & effort, equal rise & fall of the chest		Auscultate breath sounds		Trachea midline, Crepitus, subcutaneous emphysema	
 C irculation			Assess <i>For signs of shock, arrhythmias or poor perfusion</i>		
Look		Listen		Feel	
Colour, oedema, skin turgor/fontanelle, signs of bleeding		Heart sounds		Bilateral peripheral pulses (all limbs), capillary refill	
 D isability			Assess <i>For signs of altered level of consciousness, seizure activity, pain, ACVPU</i>		
Look		Listen		Feel	
Pupil size & reaction, signs of seizure activity, head trauma		Pain score, Sedation score		Temperature, BGL, Motor strength	
 E xposure			Assess <i>For signs of external & internal injury, temperature, abnormalities, investigations</i>		
Look		Listen		Feel	
Signs of injury, rashes, wounds,		Bowel sounds		Limbs, chest wall, abdomen, posterior surfaces	

ABCDE Intervention Tool

 A irway			Considerations Neurological status, laryngospasm, bronchospasm, choking		
Monitoring		Tests		Interventions	
Waveform capnography - ETCO ₂		MACOCHA - airway assessment tool		Basic airway manoeuvres (+/-C-spine precautions) OPA/NPA SGA/ETT/FONA	
 B reathing			Considerations Target oxygen levels Oxygen demand vs delivery		
Monitoring		Tests		Interventions	
Oxygen saturations - SpO ₂		Chest X-ray ABG		Oxygen therapy, Reposition Manual/mechanical ventilation Finger thoracostomy/ICC	
 C irculation			Considerations Target BP		
Monitoring		Tests		Interventions	
Cardiac monitoring BP, Urine output		12 Lead ECG Trop T/Lactate/Bloods		IV access +/- Fluid resuscitation ACS protocol Tranexamic acid/MTP/Inotropes	
 D isability			Considerations Drugs		
Monitoring		Tests		Interventions	
BGL GCS		CT Head		Consider naloxone/pain relief C-spine, manage seizures	
 E xposure			Considerations Mechanism of injury/wounds/drains/history, documentation		
Monitoring		Tests		Interventions	
Temperature		Blood cultures/ bloods		Consider Naso/orogastric tube/IDC Consider invasive monitoring	