

Management of Acute Chest Syndrome in Adults

(new radiodensity on chest radiograph, with fever or respiratory symptoms)

Diagnostics

- Labs: CBC, relic count, CMP, T&S, cultures
- Chest XR, if equivocal then chest CT

Pain control

- Opiates
- If needed, PCA
- Toradol
- Pain pharmacy consult

Respiratory support

- Goal SpO₂ >95%
- Incentive spirometry
- Maintain euvolemia
- Broad spectrum antibiotics
- Bronchodilators
- Consider therapeutic anticoagulation

Transfusion

1-2U simple transfusion IF Hgb < 10 and current Hgb 1 or more points below baseline

Exchange transfusion if

- 1) history of severe ACS
- 2) multilobar disease on imaging
- 3) rapid progression of ACS
- 4) severe hypoxemia
- 5) progression despite simple transfusion