

#### The Literature

Halvachizadeh S, Pfeifer R, Duncan J, Klingebiel FK, Kalbas Y, Berk T, Neuhaus V, Pape HC. Does the injury pattern drive the surgical treatment strategy in multiply injured patients with major fractures? Journal of Trauma and Acuto Care Surgeous 2003 Jan 11:10.97

Harvin JA, Maxim T, Inaba K, Martinez-Aguilar MA, King DR, Choudhry AJ, Zielinski MD, Akinyeye S, Todd SR, Griffin RL, Kerby JD. Mortality following emergent trauma laparotomy: a multicenter, retrospective study: mortality after emergent trauma laparotomy. The journal of trauma and acute care

### When to perform emergency laparotomy in polytrauma?

Tips & Tricks from ESTES Education in collaboration with the Polytrauma section

#### The Problem

Emergency laparotomy has a substantial impact on the polytrauma patients

# The Challenge

Indications for emergency laparotomy in the trauma bay are multifactorial

#### The Evidence

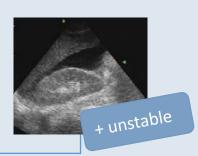
Urgent Emergency laparotomy is indicated in the following situation

- Unstable patient with evidence of free fluid/air in the abdominal cavity
- Evisceration / gun shot wounds traversing the abdominal cavity
- Retained foreign bodies (e.g. retained knife)
- Unstable patient with peritonitis
- Rectal/Vaginal bleeding

# **Tips & Tricks**







Urgent emergency laparotomy warranted

# **Conclusion**

Urgent emergency laparotomy depends on the injury and the physiologic presentation of the polytrauma patient