Traumatic Cardiac Arrest

**Trauma patient**

1. **Cardiac arrest / Periarrest situation?**
   - **Consider non-traumatic cause**
     - **Simultaneously address reversible causes**
       1. Control catastrophic haemorrhage
       2. Control airway and maximise oxygenation
       3. Bilateral chest decompression
       4. Relieve cardiac tamponade
       5. Surgery for haemorrhage control or proximal aortic compression?
       6. Massive transfusion protocol and fluids

2. **Start / Continue ALS**
   - **Consider immediate resuscitative thoracotomy**

   - **Pre-hospital:**
     - Perform only life-saving interventions
     - Immediate transport to appropriate hospital
   
   - **In-hospital:**
     - Damage control resuscitation
     - Definitive haemorrhage control

**Return of spontaneous circulation?**

- **NO**
- **YES**

**Universal ALS algorithm**

- **LIKELY**
- **UNLIKELY**

**Hypoxia**
**Tension pneumothorax**
**Tamponade**
**Hypovolaemia**

- **Elapsed time < 10 min since arrest?**
  - Expertise?
  - Equipment?
  - Environment?

- **Consider immediate resuscitative thoracotomy**

- **Consider termination of CPR**