

The injury of chest belongs to most frequented injuries. As far as 70 per cent of injuries of thorax is connected with injury of other organs. The relevance of injury of chest increases with age. The prognosis of polytraumatized patients with injury of thorax is aggravated in combination with craniocerebral injury. 50 per cent of death caused by injuries is connected with trauma of chest. The trauma of thorax are most frequently blunt. The open injuries are heavier. The main reason of blunt injuries of chest are road traffic accidents. 80 per cent of open injuries are created by shooting weapons or by stabbing. The fractures of ribs belong to most frequent types of fractures and simultaneously to the most types of injuries of thorax. The multiple fractures of ribs are serious. From 10 to 20 per cent of fractures of ribs have the manifestation of paradox breathing. The unstable fractures of ribs are classified after Pate and Eschepasse-Gailard. The conservative and operative types of treatment are used for stabilization of chest wall. The opinion on usage of this treatment are not unified. The artificial lung ventilation with low PEEP is used during conservative treatment. Operative treatment utilizes the external or internal fixation of unstable fragments of chest wall. At the Department of Surgery, University Hospital Pilsen there