Tubes and Lines Policy: Chest

Abnormal line and tube positions requiring notification

1. Chest Tubes
   - Those residing outside the pleural space or those within lung tissue. proximal side hole outside the margin of the bony thorax

2. Central venous lines/PICC lines
   - Inadvertent positioning within undesirable vessels such as within jugular veins or placement within the right atrium or IVC, or azygous vein.
   - Lines which are coiled or looped within any vessel.
   - Lines which appear broken or possibly intra-arterial in location.

3. NG/Feeding tubes
   - Enteric tubes within the tracheo-bronchial tree or lung.
   - Enteric tubes in upper esophagus.
   - Enteric tubes coiled within esophagus or hypopharynx.
   - Proximal side port of the enteric port in the distal esophagus (above projected location of GE junction)

4. Swan-Ganz catheter
   - Those that extend too far peripherally into the lung ie beyond mid-clavicular line

5. Endotracheal tubes
   - Those high in location ie terminating at the level at the thoracic inlet/ at or above the T1
   - Those extending to less than a cm from the carina or in either mainstem bronchi.

6. Intraaortic balloon pump
   - The tip of the IABP should be beyond the origin of the left subclavian artery, which on CXR is just beyond the aortic knob. Its distal end should be proximal to the celiac axis origin