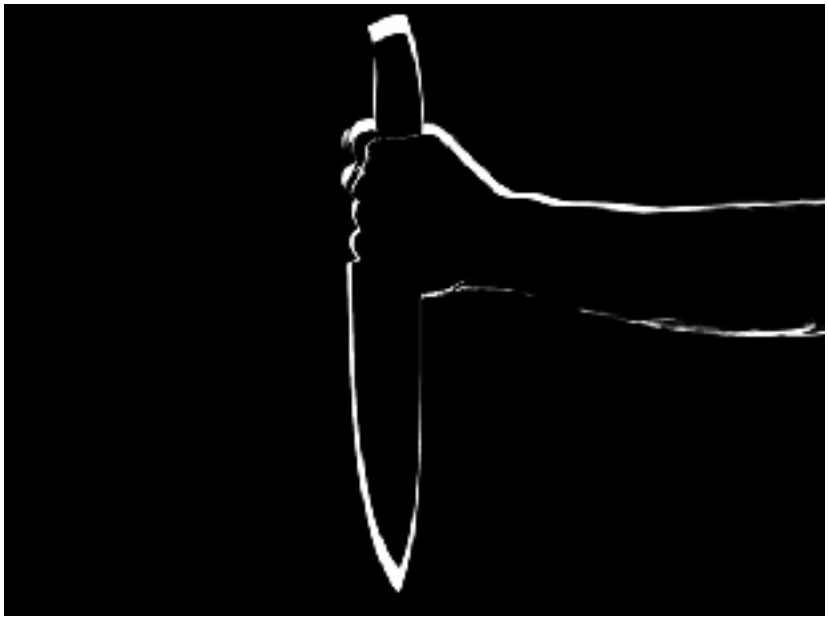
TTL TIP 1

Check these 5 areas in all penetrating trauma patients



Penetrating trauma patients need a thorough examination to look for any hidden wounds. It's quite common that they get missed prehospital or even in the resus room so remember these tips. Remember that small wounds can still have very serious underlying injury

1. Always look at the following areas for hidden wounds.
    1. Back
    2. Buttocks/natal cleft/anus
    3. Groins
    4. Axillae
    5. Beards and any areas obscured by hair

2. Look as soon as you can. We recommend this is done as part of the primary survey and before the patient gets tied up with wires, catheters, infusion etc. You will need to undress the patient, log roll them and move limbs about to do this properly.

3. It's always good practice to double check even if the prehospital team tell you that this has been done at scene. You will have better lighting and more people in the resus room.