GLOSSARY

Chest tube thoracostomy	Placement of a flexible plastic tube between the ribs into the pleural space to drain air, blood, or fluid. Key reasons for this procedure include pneumothorax (collapsed lung), pleural effusion, and chest trauma.
Exudate pleural effusion	A protein-rich fluid build-up around the lungs caused by local inflammation, infection, or malignancy. It is identified using Light's Criteria Calculator, which looks at protein and enzyme levels.
LocSSIPs	Local Safety Standards for Invasive Procedures. These are hospital rules and checklists based on national guidelines (NatSSIPs) to make medical procedures safer. They help medical teams prevent mistakes during treatments.
NatSSIPs2	National Safety Standards for Invasive Procedures. The standards support NHS organisations in providing safer care and to reduce the number of patient safety incidents related to invasive procedures in which surgical never events can occur.
NEWS2	The National Early Warning Score (NEWS) was developed by the Royal College of Physicians in 2012 to standardise the process of recording, scoring and responding to changes in routinely measured physiological parameters in acutely ill patients.
Peri-procedure	The time around a medical test or surgery. This time includes three parts: before the procedure (pre-procedure), during the procedure (intra-procedure), and after the procedure (post-procedure).
Pleural tap	Also called thoracentesis or pleural aspiration. It is a medical procedure that removes excess fluid from the space around the lungs.
Pneumothorax (plural pneumothoraces)	This is a collapsed lung caused by air leaking into the space between the lung and the chest wall. Common signs include sudden sharp chest pain and trouble breathing.
Pleural effusion	This is often called 'fluid on the lungs' and is an abnormal build-up of fluid in the space between the lungs and the chest wall. Common signs include shortness of breath, chest pain, and a dry cough. It is grouped into two main types based on the cause: transudative (caused by fluid leaks from pressure changes) and exudative (caused by inflammation and blocked vessels).
Re-expansion pulmonary oedema	A rare, serious condition marked by coughing, chest tightness, and shortness of breath that can happen when a collapsed lung inflates too fast. It usually occurs within 24 hours after treatment of a collapsed lung (pneumothorax) or fluid build-up (pleural effusion).
Thoracentesis	A procedure to drain extra fluid from the space around the lungs to relieve breathing pressure and diagnose underlying causes like heart failure, infections, or cancer.
Transudative pleural effusion	A clear body fluid that leaks out of blood vessels because of an imbalance in pressure, featuring low protein and few cells through healthy, intact vessel walls. It most commonly appears as a pleural effusion in the chest.