Guidelines for the Management of Hemothorax

- **Stable after chest tube placement**
- **Persistent opacity on CXR after 24 hours**

**CT w/o contrast shows retained hemothorax**: YES

**Operative candidate?**: YES

**VATS ≤ 3 days**

**NO/Small Air leak?**

- **NO**
  - Intrapleural TPA/DNASE &/or IR drainage
- **YES**
  - Place chest tube to water seal
  - Remove chest tube when output is <300 ml/24 h.
  - Chest film at 24 h to look for hemothorax

**Continue suction & reassess in 24h. (Small leaks may still be considered for water seal). If leak unresolved by day 3, consider VATS**