## **Burn Administrative Guideline**

# A

#### History

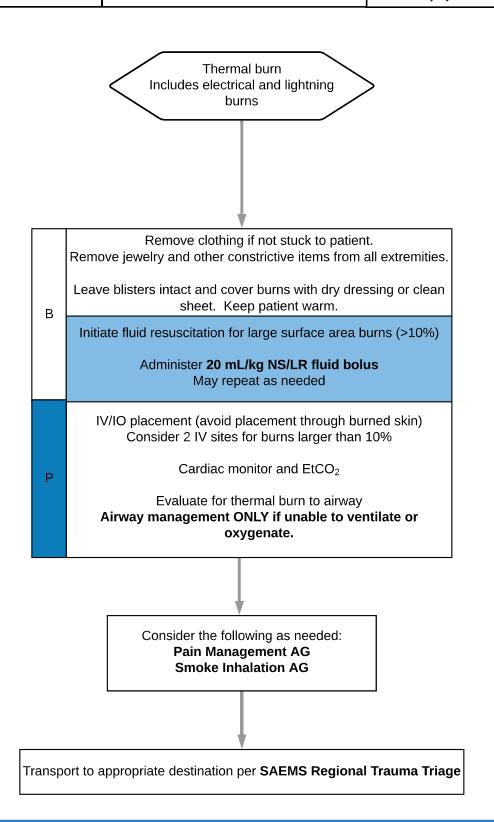
- Type of exposure
- Time of injury
- Other trauma
- · Airway/inhalation injury

#### Signs and Symptoms

- Burns
- · Pain and swelling
- Hypotension/shock
- Airway compromise/distress could be indicated by hoarseness/wheezing

#### Differential

- Superficial (1stDegree) red, painful (Don't include in TBSA)
- Partial Thickness (2nd Degree) blistering
- Full Thickness (3rd Degree) painless/charred or leathery skin
- Thermal injury, including chemical or electrical
- Radiation injury
- · Blast injury



## **Burn Administrative Guideline**



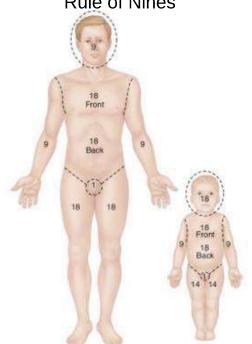
## **Education/Pearls:**

- Critical or Serious Burns should be transported directly to a burn center:
  - Partial thickness burns >10% TBSA
  - Moderate to severe burns that involve the face, hands, feet, genitalia, perineum, or major joints.
  - Full thickness burns in any age group.
  - Electrical burns, including lightning injury.
  - Chemical burns.
  - Burn injury in patients with preexisting medical disorders that could complicate management, prolong recovery, or affect mortality.
- Burn patients are often trauma patients; evaluate for multisystem trauma and consider whether a patient meets trauma criteria.
- Circumferential burns to extremities are dangerous due to potential vascular compromise secondary to soft tissue swelling.
- Burn patients are prone to hypothermia never apply ice or cool the burn. Instead, maintain normal body temperature.
- Evaluate the possibility of abuse with burn injuries in the elderly or pediatric patients.
- Do not administer IM pain injections to a burn patient.
- Electrical Burns:
  - DO NOT contact patient until the source of the electrical shock is disconnected..
  - Cardiac Monitor: Anticipate cardiac arrhythmias including VT, VF, atrial fibrillation and/or heart blocks.
- Lightning strikes generate unique injuries that require appropriate interventions
  - Lightning can cause hearing difficulty, cardiac arrhythmias, and deep burns that may not be visible externally. They may coincide with additional physical trauma (e.g. falls or being thrown by event).
  - Utilize REVERSE TRIAGE for multiple victims:
    - Initiate treatment on apneic or pulseless patients first, then proceed to address the less-injured.
    - Patients may experience cardiac arrest and/or be in extremis from both a medical (dysrhythmia) and traumatic cause. Prioritize correction of any life-threatening dysrhythmia (e.g. defibrillate VF and initiate CPR) and also initiate transport to a trauma center with ongoing high-quality resuscitation.

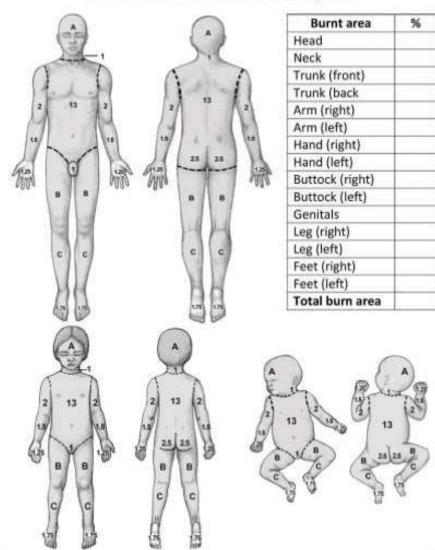
## Burn Surface Area Reference Guide



## **Rule of Nines**



### Lund and Browder Charts for area of body burnt



Age (years)	Under 1	2-4	5-9	10-14	15	Adult
A - 1/2 of head	91/2	8%	61/2	51/4	41/2	31/4
B — 1/2 of one thigh	21/4	314	4	41/2	41/2	4%
C — ½ of one leg	21/2	21/2	21/4	3	3%	3

