



BURNS

Effective: May 20, 2021
Replaces: January 1, 2021
Review: May 20, 2023

1. BLS Treatment

- 1.1. Routine Medical Care – Adult **(700-S04)**
 - 1.1.1. **Oxygen** – titrate as appropriate
- 1.2. If patient has an unstable airway, transport to the closest hospital (Policy 602)
- 1.3. Stop the burning process with sterile water (Do not use ice packs)
- 1.4. Expose and examine the patient for all burned areas
 - 1.4.1. Do not remove clothing, jewelry or tarlike substances **if** adhered to the burn area
- 1.5. Estimate the severity of the burns using the ABA classification or “rule of 9’s”
- 1.6. Protect against hypothermia
 - 1.6.1. Dry sterile dressings or burn dressings for any burns 10% or greater total body surface area (TBSA)
 - 1.6.2. Moist sterile dressings or burn sheets are permitted for small burns 10% or less TBSA
 - 1.6.3. Maintain patient body temperature with sheets, blankets and/or ambient temperature to prevent hypothermia
- 1.7. If patient meets burn center criteria, transport to the burn center (Policy 605)
- 1.8. Assess for associated trauma and treat accordingly **(700-A16)**

2. ALS Treatment

- 2.1. Assess for inhalation injury and be prepared to intubate early
- 2.2. **Vascular Access (IV) or (IO), TKO**
 - 2.2.1. For major burns (full and partial thickness) establish two (2) large bore IVs
 - 2.2.2. Consider **250ml Fluid bolus**, may repeat once, for burns less than 20% TBSA
 - 2.2.3. Consider **1,000ml Fluid bolus** for burns greater than 20% TBSA
- 2.3. Consider pain management
 - 2.3.1. **Morphine 2–5mg IV / IO**, every 3-5 minutes, titrated to pain, max dose 20 mg
 - 2.3.2. OR, **Morphine 5-10mg IM**, may repeat in 20 minutes, max dose 20 mg
 - 2.3.3. **BASE CONTACT**: if additional Morphine above 20 mg is needed

3. Special Considerations

- 3.1. Liquid chemical burns:
 - 3.1.1. Flush immediately with copious amounts of water for 20 minutes
- 3.2. Dry chemical burns:
 - 3.2.1. Brush powder off skin, then flush with copious amounts of water or saline, try to identify if the chemical is safe



4. Adult – Rule of Nines

