

BURNS

Effective: January 1, 2024
Replaces: May 20, 2021

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” or Palmar Method (Rule of 1’s)
 - 1.5.1. Superficial, first-degree burns should not be counted toward total body surface area (TBSA) calculation
- 1.6. Protect against hypothermia
 - 1.6.1. Dry sterile dressings or burn dressings for any burns 10% TBSA or greater
 - 1.6.2. Moist sterile dressings or burn sheets are permitted for small burns 10% TBSA or less
 - 1.6.3. Maintain patient body temperature (> 97.7 F) 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

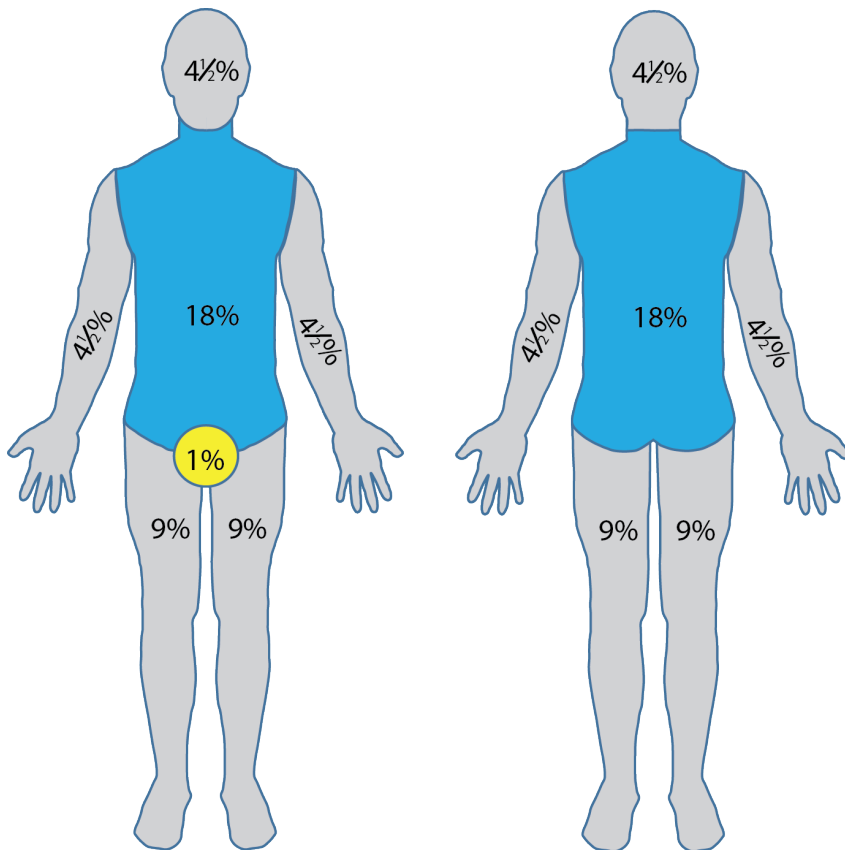
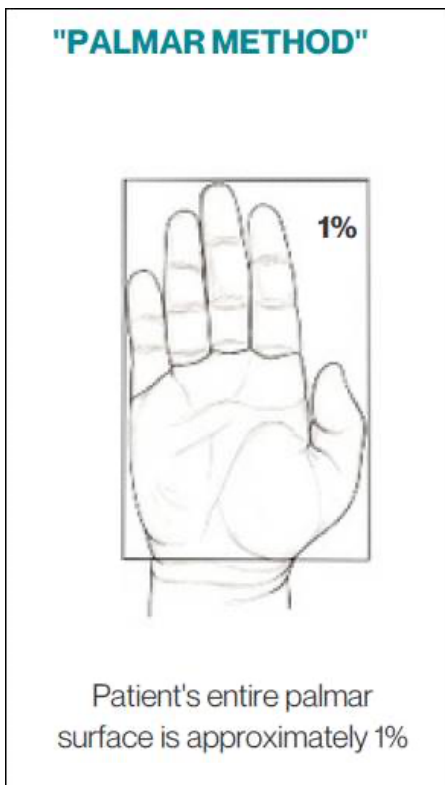
- 2.1. Assess for inhalation injury and be prepared to intubate early
- 2.2. **Vascular Access (IV) or (IO), TKO**
 - 2.2.1. For major burns (greater than 20% TBSA) establish two (2) large bore IVs and administer fluids (macro drip set) as indicated below:
 - 2.2.1.1. Administer IV fluids at a rate of 10 mL/min, or 100 gtt/min (1-2 gtt/sec)
 - 2.2.1.2. If patient is hemodynamically unstable administer **1,000ml fluid bolus**; otherwise do not bolus fluids
- 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 and Palmar Method



Burn Severity Determination	
Superficial (first-degree)	Dry, red, easily blanches, sometimes painful Example: Sunburn
Superficial Partial Thickness	Moist, red, blisters, blanches, very painful
Deep Partial Thickness	Drier, more pale, less blanching, less pain
Full Thickness	Dry, leathery texture, variable color (white, brown, black), loss of pin prick sensation

Protocol # 700-A06