CARE OF THERMAL BURNS ≥ 20% TOTAL BODY SURFACE AREA

1 INITIAL ASSESSMENT
- Remove burned clothing, rings/watches and jewelry.
- Cervical spine precautions (if history of blast injury or other significant trauma).
- Keep patient warm and dry (blankets, turn up ambient room temperature, warmed IV fluids, head covering, Bair Hugger™) Begin Temperature monitoring.

2 AIRWAY
- Initiate 100% FiO2 by non-rebreathing face mask with noninvasive EtCO2 monitor in place for all burns related to fire (can omit for scald and non-fire related thermal burns).
- Manage airway if indicated (see box to right).

3 ESTIMATE TOTAL BODY SURFACE AREA
- Estimate total body surface area (TBSA) with partial and full thickness burns - can use a burn diagram.

4 FLUIDS
- Establish IV access (2 large bore IVs for burns ≥ 20% TBSA).
- Initiate Ringer’s lactate infusion according to fluid administration recommendations (see box to right).
- Do not bolus (avoid “fluid creep”)
- Insert Foley catheter for urine output monitoring

5 PAIN
Pain control with IV morphine 0.1 mg/kg/dose (max 10 mg/dose) or IV fentanyl 1-2 mcg/kg/dose (max 200 mcg/dose)

6 URINE OUTPUT GOAL (UOP)
Under age of 15 years (< 50 kg) : 1 ml/kg/hr
Over age of 15 years (> 50 kg) : 30 ml/hr

7 DRESSINGS
- Dress the burns with dry, sterile gauze or cover patient with a dry sheet if the burns are extensive.

8 TRANSFER 866-947-7840

PITFALLS TO AVOID
- Hypothermia
- Inappropriate endotracheal intubation
- Over/under resuscitation with fluids

INDICATIONS FOR EMERGENT AIRWAY MANAGEMENT IN A BURN PATIENT
- Obtundation with absent airway reflexes (no cough/no gag)
- Hoarse voice or cry, stridor, drooling, difficulty speaking, respiratory distress, obvious swelling of the oropharynx.
- Consider for extensive (≥40%) TBSA burns

PITFALL TO AVOID
- Overestimation of TBSA
- Do not calculate 1st degree burns

PALMAR METHOD
(1% of Patient’s entire hand)

RESUSCITATION GUIDELINES
3 ml x % burn x kg
1/2 of total over first 8 hours (NO BOLUS THERAPY)

URINE OUTPUT
Under age of 15 years (< 50 kg):
- UOP < 1 ml/kg/hr, increase fluids by 10%
- UOP > 1 ml/kg/hr, decrease fluids by 10%
Over age of 15 years (> 50 kg):
- UOP < 30 ml/hr, increase fluids by 10%
- UOP > 30 ml/hr, decrease fluids by 10%

May apply antibiotic ointment