

**COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AGENCY**



Program Document: **Pediatric Burns**

Policy Number: 9004.21

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Signature on File

EMS Medical Director

Signature on File

EMS Administrator

Purpose:

- A. To establish a treatment standard for pediatric patients burned by caustic material, electricity, or heat.

Authority:

- A. California Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5
- B. California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9

Protocol:

- A. The ability to maintain the temperature in prehospital settings is a significant problem with a dose-dependent increase in mortality for temperatures below 37°C or 98.6°F. Simple interventions to prevent hypothermia can reduce mortality. During transport, warm and maintain normal temperature, being careful to avoid hyperthermia.

BLS

1. Remove the patient from the source of the burn, then remove burning or smoldering clothing and remove jewelry
2. Perform ABCs
3. Assess for inhalation injury (singled nasal hairs, hoarse voice or stridor, oral or facial burns) and administer supplemental O₂ as necessary to maintain SpO₂ ≥ 94%. Be prepared to support ventilation with appropriate airway adjuncts.
4. Estimate the size of the burn (see below)
5. For burns < 30% TBSA AND no inhalation injury, stop the burning process by applying cool running water over the burn. The goal is

cumulative (bystander and first responder) application of cool running water for 20 minutes. Whenever possible, this should be completed prior to transport.

- a. It is critical that providers remain on scene to complete a full 20 minutes of continuous cooling with running water before initiating transport unless the scene becomes unsafe or the patient's condition necessitates immediate transport.
6. After cooling the burn, apply a covering to the burn (dry non-stick gauze, loose plastic wrap, etc.).
7. Avoid hypothermia by isolating and cooling only the burned area. Keep unaffected body parts warm by covering them as much as possible, and use the heater in the passenger compartment.
8. Caustic and Chemical Burns: Wear protective clothing and gloves and consider the presence of hazardous materials. Remove the patient's clothing. Apply cool running water over the burn for 20 minutes. Do not scrub.
9. Electrical Burns: Check for and dress all entrance and exit wounds.

NOTE: Check for associated injuries. Treat shock, if present. Do not apply ice or creams to the burned area. Fire in enclosed space suggests smoke inhalation or carbon monoxide poisoning.

ALS

1. Initiate vascular access in patients with major burns
 - a. (> 9%). For BSA > 9% or hypotension. Administer 20ml/kg NS fluid bolus.
 - b. When possible, the preferred vascular access site is an unburned area.
2. Albuterol (if wheezes present)
 - a. 5 mg via HHN, mask or BVM.
3. Cardiac monitor with SpO2.
4. Consider administration of pain medication as per PD# 9018-Pediatric Pain Management.

NOTE: Any patient with the following shall be transported to UCDCMC Burn Center:

- A. Partial thickness >9% of body surface.
- B. Any electrical or any chemical burn.

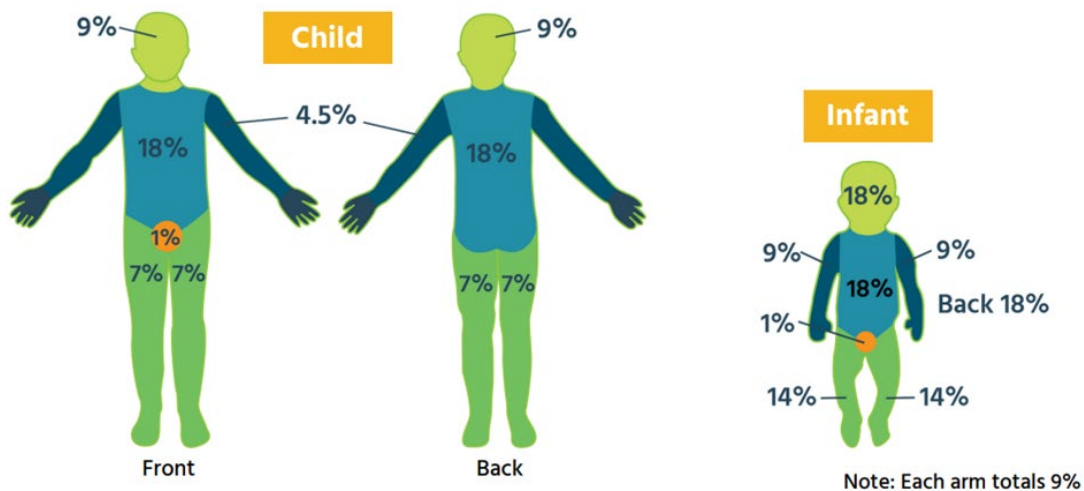
- C. Evidence of possible Inhalation Injury.
- D. Any burn to the face, hands, feet, genitalia, perineum or major joints.
- E. Cardiac arrest shall go to the closest E.D.

Estimating Burn Size (either method can be used):

Rule of Palm:

The palm of the person who is burned (not the fingers or wrist area) is about 1% of the body. Use the person's palm to measure the body surface area burned.

Rule of Nines:



Cross Reference:

PD# 9018 – Pediatric Pain Management

PD# 8837 – Pediatric Airway Management