4.06 BURNS

DRAFT
PUBLIC COMMENT
JULY 2026

- Assess ABC's, **vital signs**, **Oxygen** PRN (goal >94%)
- Focused examination:
  - Airway: stridor, hoarse voice, soot in nares, singed facial hair
  - Breathing: rapid, shallow, wheezes, rales
  - Skin: Estimate Total Burn Surface Area (TBSA: Appendix 1) and depth (partial vs full thickness)
  - Associated Trauma: blast, fall, assault
  - Associated exposures: **Carbon monoxide (CO)** and **Cyanide**

Thermal Burns	Chemical/Radiation Burns	Electrical Burns	Tar Burn
• Apply cool water (not ice) to affected area(s) • Leave blisters intact • Apply dry sterile dressing	• See Protocol **Special Circumstances – HAZMAT, Chemical & Radiological Agents** regarding decontamination	• Disconnect electrical source before touching patient	• Apply cool to tepid water (not ice) • Do not remove tar or apply solvent

- IV/IO of Normal Saline TKO
- For full thickness burns >10% TBSA
  - Pediatric (<14years): 10ml/kg bolus
  - Adult: 500mL bolus
- Assess and treat **Pain & Nausea**

Impending critical airway (stridor or hypoxia)? — YES → Transport to ED

Trauma Center Criteria? — YES → Transport to Trauma Center

Burn Center Criteria? — YES → Transport to Burn Center

Burn Center Criteria

- Full thickness burns
- Partial thickness burns ≥ 10% TBSA
- Any deep partial or full thickness burns involving face, eyes, ears, hands, feet, perineum or major joints
- All patients with suspected inhalation injuries
- All chemical injuries
- All high voltage (≥1,000V) electrical injuries including lightning injury

Comments

- Inhalation injuries are burn injuries that may cause delayed, but severe airway compromise
- Assume presence of associated multisystem trauma from explosion, electrical shock, falls or with signs of symptoms of hypovolemia
- If concern for abuse, see **Suspected Abuse, Reporting & Resources**

Appendix A: & Total Body Surface Area (TBSA) & Burn Severity Determination

*Percentage Total Body Surface Area (TBSA)

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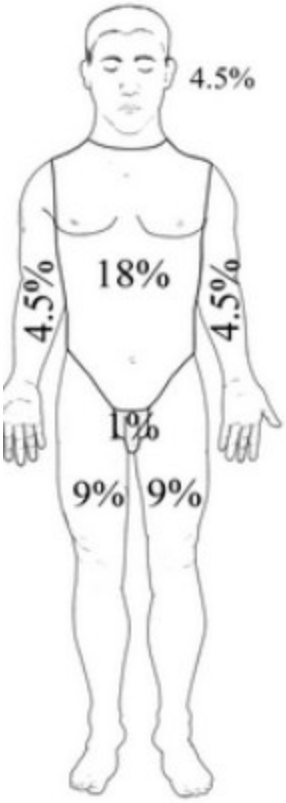
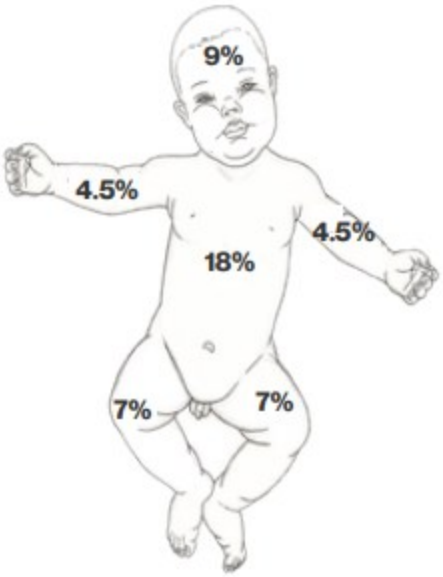
"RULE OF NINES"

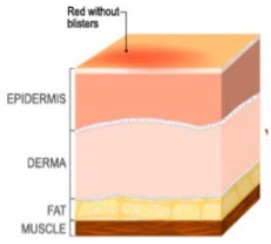




"PALMAR METHOD"

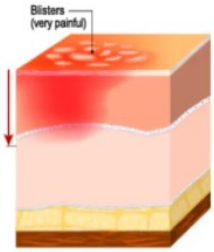
Patient's entire palmar surface is approximately 1%

Burn Severity Determination



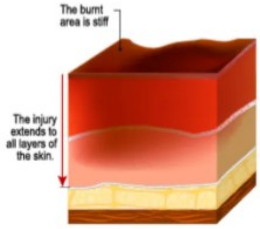
Superficial

- Dry, red, easily blanching, sometimes painful
- Example: Sunburn
- NOT counted in calculations of total burn surface area (TBSA)



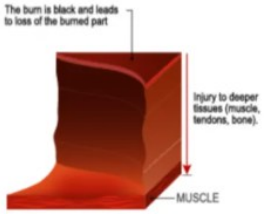
Superficial Partial Thickness

- Moist, red, blanching, blisters, very painful
- Counted in calculations of total burn surface area (TBSA)



Deep Partial Thickness

- Drier, more pale, less blanching, less pain
- Counted in calculations of total burn surface area (TBSA)



Full Thickness

- Dry, leathery texture, variable color (white, brown, black), loss of pin prick sensation
- Counted in calculations of total burn surface area (TBSA)