

*Michigan*  
**Adult Treatment Protocols**  
**BURNS**

Date: November 15, 2012

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***Burns***

**Pre-Medical Control**

**MFR/EMT/SPECIALIST/PARAMEDIC**

1. Follow **General Pre-hospital Care Protocol**.
2. Determine burn extent & severity (rule of nines).
3. Follow local MCA transport protocol.

**THERMAL BURNS:**

1. Stop the burning process. Remove smoldering and non-adherent clothing.
2. Assess and treat associated trauma.
3. Remove any constricting items.
4. If partial/full burn is moderate-to-severe, more than 15% of body surface area (BSA), cover wounds with dry clean dressings.
5. Use cool, wet dressings in smaller burns, less than 15% BSA, for patient comfort.

**CHEMICAL BURNS:**

1. Protect personnel from contamination.
2. Remove all clothing and constricting items.
3. Decontaminate patient prior to transport, brushing off dry chemicals prior to irrigation.
4. Assess and treat for associated injuries.
5. Evaluate for systemic symptoms, which might be caused by chemical contamination.
6. Cover burned area in clean, dry dressing for transport.

**ELECTRICAL INJURY:**

1. Protect rescuers from live electric wires.
2. Remove patient from electrical source when safe.
3. Treat associated injuries, provide spinal immobilization when indicated.
4. Assess and treat entrance and exit wound.

**PARAMEDIC**

5. Monitor patient ECG for possible arrhythmias. Treat as per specific arrhythmia protocol.

**FOR ALL TYPES OF BURNS:**

**SPECIALIST/PARAMEDIC**

1. Obtain vascular access if indicated for pain management or fluid therapy.
2. Administer NS IV/IO fluid bolus up to 1 liter wide open for hypotension or severe burn greater than 15% BSA. Repeat as indicated.
3. Follow local MCA transport protocol.

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**PARAMEDIC**

4. Administer Analgesic Medication. Refer to **Pain Management Procedure**.

**Post-Medical Control**

**Thermal Burns and Electrical Injury:**

1. Additional NS IV/IO fluid bolus, up to 1 liter, wide open.

**Thermal inhalation, chemical burns:**

2. Intubation per **Emergency Airway Procedure**.

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