
Adult – Pediatric Trauma Triage: Burn Triage Supplement

Purpose:

This supplement to the Adult – Pediatric Trauma Triage Protocol was developed to assist the emergency responder determine what constitutes a burn patient and the appropriate destination for the transport of the burn patient.

In the pre-hospital care environment, time, distance, patient condition, and level of care are important variables when making decisions for transporting a burn patient. These variables are frequently hard to assess in the field and are ever changing. These guidelines are meant to supplement but not replace the judgment of the EMS personnel at the scene.

I. Burn Triage

- A. All patients with burns which meet the following criteria should be preferentially transported to a designated burn center:

ADULT

2nd degree > 10% BSA

or any

3rd degree

PEDIATRIC

2nd degree > 10% BSA

or any

3rd degree

- B. All burns of hands, face, eyes, ears, feet, perineum; inhalation, chemical and electrical burns; burns complicated with fractures, major trauma, or poor risk patients.
- C. All patients with signs and symptoms of **inhalation injury**. If concerns for airway compromise, transport to nearest appropriate trauma center for support.
- D. In areas with limited resources, local decisions can be made for appropriate burn patient destination.