Royal Perth Hospital

WESTERN AUSTRALIA BURN SERVICE

Government of South Australia
Central Northern Adelaide Health Service
Royal Adelaide Hospital

Community First Aid Protocol for Thermal Injury

Thermal Burn

Scald

TAKE CARE!
Remove scalding agent (water, hot fat etc)

Remove hot or soaked clothing

Flame

Clothing on fire

TAKE CARE!
Extinguish flames (stop, drop and roll)

Flash burn to skin only

Radiant heat or contact burn

COOL THE BURN WOUND

DO NOT USE ICE OR ICEPACKS!!!

Running cold water available

20 minutes under cold running tap water (~15ºC). Remove jewellery once cooling commenced.

Cover with cool wet towels or hydrogel dressings eg BURNAID if available.

Still cold water available

Submerge burned area in water OR use towels/cloths soaked in water and applied to burns. Refresh the water in the towels every 2-3 minutes for total of 20 minutes. Remove jewellery once cooling commenced.

No water available

Smear hydrogel eg BURNAID or hydrogel impregnated dressings over the surface of the burn. Remove jewellery once cooling commenced.

Wrap clean towel around hydrogel

Seek medical attention/advice. Advice can be obtained on a 24 hour basis by phoning the Burns Unit at
The Royal Perth Hospital on (08) 9224 2244 or
The Princess Margaret Hospital on (08) 9340 8222 or
Trauma 1800 631 798

Department of Health

Revised in Western Australia by:
F. Wood FRACS, B. Sperring CN and L. Barnden CN

Burns Management Programme Royal Perth Hospital

Compiled by: Dr John Greenwood for The Royal Adelaide Hospital Burns Unit 1st June 2005.

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