



County of Santa Cruz

HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

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EMERGENCY MEDICAL
SERVICES PROGRAM

Protocol No. E4-P
Reviewed 4/2009

Emergency Medical Services Program

Approved

Medical Director

Subject: BURNS

I. BLS Treatment Protocol:

- A. Scene Survey - Identify hazard potential - (chemical, electrical, thermal).
- B. Mitigate hazard and stop burning process. Remove jewelry and constrictive clothing.
- C. Treat life threats. (See Policy 4000) Use humidified O2 source when indicated.
- D. Identify extent of burn. Use rule of nines. Refer to MAP criteria when appropriate.
- E. Cover affected body surface with clean, dry cotton or linen sheet.
- F. Prepare for transport / transfer of care.

II. ALS Treatment Protocol:

- A. Treat life threats. (See Policy 4000). Consider early intubation for patients with evidence of inhalation injury or respiratory distress. Use nebulized saline when indicated.
- B. If Bronchospasm or wheezes are present:
Albuterol 2.5mg via nebulizer, may repeat X3 q10 minutes. If heart rate >180 bpm withhold treatment and contact Base Station.
- C. To relieve pain, Morphine Sulfate 0.1mg/kg IV/IM/IO (no more than 5mg per dose) to a total of 10mg. Contact Base Station for additional doses. (See Notes)
- D. Transport. Consider direct transport to the Santa Clara Valley Medical Burn Center.
- E. Contact Base Station as needed.

Notes:

- **Hold MS if patient has or develops respiratory depression, bradycardia or hypotension. Narcan should be immediately available to reverse adverse effects.**

- Remember that hypothermia is much more common than hyperthermia in burn patients. Once burn is properly covered, consider covering patient with additional insulating material
- Enclosed space burn patients are at high risk for respiratory burns

Specific Burn Criteria for direct transport to the SCVMC Burn Center:

1. >10% TBSA 2°/3° burns
2. >2% 3° burns
3. Evidence of respiratory burns
4. Circumferential burns
5. Burns that cross joints
6. Significant electrical burns
7. Burns involving face, hands, feet, perineum

Rule of Nines:

