**Burns**

**History:**
- Type of exposure (heat, gas, chemical)
- Inhalation injury
- Time of injury
- Past medical history
- Medications
- Other trauma
- Loss of consciousness
- Tetanus / immunization status

**Signs and Symptoms:**
- Burns, pain, swelling
- Dizziness
- Loss of consciousness
- Hypotension / shock
- Airway compromise / distress
- Singed facial or nasal hair
- Hoarseness / wheezing

**Differential:**
- Superficial (1) red and painful
- Partial thickness (2) blistering
- Full thickness (3) painless and charred or leathery skin
- Chemical
- Thermal
- Electrical
- Radiation

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**Pearls:**
- **Exam:** Mental Status, HEENT, Neck, Heart, Lungs, Abdomen, Extremities, Back, Neuro
- **Critical Burns:** > 25% body surface area (BSA); 3 burns > 10% BSA; 2 and 3 burns to face, eyes, hands or feet; electrical burns; respiratory burns; deep chemical burns; burns with extremes of age or chronic disease; and burns with associated major traumatic injury. These burns may require hospital admission or transfer to a burn center
- Cover all Burns with a **DRY** Sterile Dressing
- Potential CO2 exposure should be treated with 100% oxygen
- Continuous ETCO2 monitoring is required for all significant burn patients.
- Dilute chemical based on HMGR Recommendations
- **Burn patients are prone to hypothermia** – never apply ice or cool burns that involve > 10% body surface area
- Notify Chapel Hill for flight assistance if the Critical Burn criteria is met.
- Do not overlook the possibility for child abuse with children and burn injuries
- **See Appendix for Rule of Nines**
- **Fluid must be administered based on the Parkland Chart.**
- Remove rings, bracelets, and other constricting items. Expose affected area.

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**Universal Patient Care Protocol**

1. **Airway Protocol**
   - Inadequate

2. **Respiratory Function**
   - Adequate

3. **Thermal**
   - IV Protocol
   - Parkland

4. **Electric**
   - 12-Lead

5. **Chemical**
   - IV Protocol
   - Parkland

**Legend**

- EMT
- EMT- I
- Paramedic
- MC Order

**IV Protocol**

1. Go to Appropriate Protocol