

POLICY: 554.81  
TITLE: Burns

EFFECTIVE: 04/10/19  
REVIEW: 04/2024  
SUPERCEDES:

APPROVAL SIGNATURES ON FILE IN EMS OFFICE

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**Burns**

I. **AUTHORITY**

Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9

II **PURPOSE**

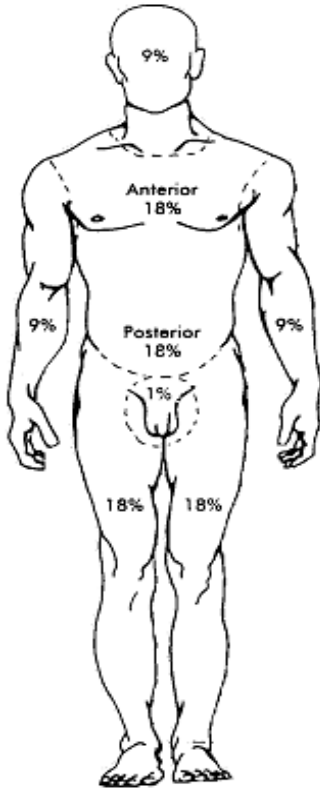
To serve as a patient treatment standard for EMRs, EMTs, AEMTs and Paramedics within their scope of practice.

III. **PROTOCOL**

**STANDING ORDERS**

<b>MOVE PATIENT</b>	To a safe environment
<b>ASSESS</b>	CAB
<b>COOLING PROCESS</b>	<p><u>Tar</u> Burns: Cool with water and transport. Do not attempt to remove tar.</p> <p><u>Thermal</u> Burns: Cool with water for up to 5 minutes to stop the burning process.</p>
<b>OXYGEN</b>	Oxygen delivery as appropriate
<b>SECURE AIRWAY/ INTUBATE</b>	Consider EARLY intubation if ineffective ventilation/oxygenation, or if patient is unconscious. Otherwise, use the simplest effective method. A BLS airway with objective evidence of good ventilation and oxygenation is adequate and acceptable. Beyond BLS airway management refer to General Protocol 554.00
<b>IV/IO ACCESS</b>	<p><b>Superficial Burns: TKO</b></p> <p><b>Partial and full-thickness burns:</b> 0.5 ml times patient weight in kg times % of burn = IV/IO fluid per hour. If systolic BP less than 90mmHg, give 250 ml boluses until systolic BP 90-100. Reassess patient after each bolus.</p> <p><b>Major Burns:</b> Two 14-16 gauge IV/IO in patients with major burns (greater than 9%) TKO. If systolic BP less than 90mmHg, give 250 ml boluses to systolic BP 90-100. Reassess the patient after each bolus.</p> <p>IV site in order of preference:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. unburned upper extremity, or external jugular</li> <li>2. unburned lower extremity</li> <li>3. burned upper extremity</li> <li>4. burned lower extremity</li> </ol>

<b>MONITOR</b>	Treat rhythm as appropriate.
<b>DRESS BURNS</b>	Cover with dry dressing and keep patient warm.
<b>PAIN MANAGEMENT</b>	Refer to Pain Management Protocol 554.44
<b>TRANSPORT</b>	To nearest facility if patient is unstable (airway difficulty, hypotension) or according to Trauma Triage and Patient Destination Policy 553.25 if stable.



<u>Adult Body Part</u>	<u>% of Total Body Surface</u>
Arm (shoulder to fingertips)	9 (x2)
Head/Neck	9
Groin	1
Leg	18 (x2)
Anterior trunk	18
Posterior trunk	18
<i>The patient's palm (hand including fingers) is about 0.9% of the patient's body surface area.</i>	