

TREATMENT OF BURNS

1. SHOCK

- a. Keep warm - room about 80° F. No draughts.
- b. Surgical asepsis in associated wards.
- c. Get immediate blood specimen for hematorit.
 1. If 45% or higher start plasma immediately.
 2. Check on burns of 10% of body surface every 2 to 3 hours.
 3. Amount of plasma necessary depends on extent and depth of burns - early the need is critical. May require several liters.
- d. Minimal oral fluids.
- e. Do not rely on B. P. or pulse.
- f. O₂ for face or chest burns and extensive burns.
- g. "Burn shock" lasts for about 48 hours - this is an important period. Chart "intake and output".

REMEMBER TO GIVE TETANUS ANTITOXIN TO ALL BURNS

2. LOCAL CARE OF BURNED AREA

- a. Surgical asepsis - caps and masks for all in contact with patients.
- b. Room 80° F. No draughts.
- c. All solutions used to cleanse and soak off clothes to be warmed to 100° F.
- d. Care of Burns
 1. Soak off clothes.
 2. Using sterile equipment throughout - carefully cleanse entire burned area with soap and water 10 to 15 minutes each area.
 3. Excise all blebs, blisters, and fragments of skin.
 4. Flush carefully.
 5. Cover area with:
 - a. Vaseline gauze - 1 layer
 - b. Few layers dry 4 x 4's - opened.
 - c. Layer of combinations pads on A.B.D's.
 - d. Fluffed gauze of mechanics' waste.
 - e. Pressure dressing.
 - f. Incorporate a splint.

SUGGESTED LIST OF SUPPLIES NECESSARY FOR TREATMENT OF A BURNED PATIENT

Masks and caps for all personnel
Sterile gowns and gloves (at least for two operators - two changes)
Morphine sulfate .
Sterile sheets - 3 to 4 per case.
Two sterile basins for washing the open wound. Sterile cotton sponges. Soap
Sterile containers to use for flushing the wound.
Sterile instruments; one set for each operator.
Hemostat
Tissue forceps
Scissors
Sulfonamide in known quantities (5 to 10 grams)
Sterile vaseline gauze - strips 3 x 12 inches - sufficient adequately to cover the entire area cleansed. Abdominal pads or combinations ready.
Sufficient sterile fluffed gauze, or mechanics' waste to use as pressure dressings.
Bandages: either stockinette or elastic.
Safety pins to be used to tighten up the bandages.

Splints adequate for extremities.
Sterile vaseline.

General:

Make certain that the room to be used is warm (80 degrees F.)

Adequate plasma ready for use.

Intravenous sets for plasma administration.

A large supply of sterile water warmed to 100 degrees F.

If no tub or shelf is available, then some substitute must be used to drain away the water used in cleansing.

Have the patient's bed ready for use and supply of plasma and oxygen ready if necessary.