Burn Guidelines

Purpose

This document is designed to help UTMB patient care staff to provide consistent and optimal care to the burn patient

Audience

This document is intended for all UTMB staff who care for burn patients. This includes:

- physicians
- nurses in the Emergency Department, in the Blocker Burn Unit (BBU), and in the tub room
- emergency technicians/HTA's
- OSA
- Radiology technicians
- Respiratory Therapy technicians

Policy

The policy detailed below applies to all burn patients treated at UTMB:

- The Trauma team and the physician on call for the BBU will be notified of all burns. This will be done prior to the patient's arrival when possible. The Burn Team will be activated by pager upon patient's arrival to the Emergency Room.

- Burn patients will be directly admitted to the BBU tub room unless the patient has experienced trauma and/or CPR is in progress. Initial stabilization will then be established in the Emergency Department. Patients needing transport to the Blocker Burn Unit after stabilization will be accompanied by appropriate personnel.

- Any burn patients arriving at UTMB with CPR in progress must stop in the Emergency Department to establish airway and effective cardiac rhythm. The burn physician will be notified by dispatch ASAP as information about the patient is available.

References

1. Herndon, David, Total Burn Care, 3rd edition, W.B. Saunders, Philadelphia, 2007.
2. Lynn-McHale, Debra and Carlson, Karen K., AACN Procedure Manual for Critical Care, 5th edition, W.B. Saunders, Philadelphia, 2005.