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Burn Patients Arriving Through the Emergency Department

Audience

This document is intended for the Patient Placement Center and all healthcare providers caring for patients with burns.

Policy

When hospitals call the Patient Placement Center (PPC) to transfer a Burn Patient, the sending hospital shall be instructed to inform EMS, the patient must stop in the emergency department to be registered.

The Trauma team and the physician on call for the Blocker Burn Unit (BBU) shall be notified as soon as the Emergency Department (ED) is aware of the burn patients pending arrival.

Upon the patient's arrival to the ED, the BBU Team shall be notified via the Burn pager.

Stable burn patients arriving via EMS or private auto shall be registered as a hospital outpatient visit (HOV) created in the Emergency Department (ED) for a tub room evaluation.

Unstable burn patients shall be registered in the ED to be treated and stabilized and then registered as an admission to the BBU tub room for further care and evaluation.

The Burn team shall go to the emergency department to initiate resuscitation for burn patient's that are not stable enough to be immediately transferred to the BBU.

Burn patients arriving with CPR in progress or concurrent trauma shall be stabilized with an airway, effective breathing and cardiac rhythm in the ED prior to transfer to the tub room.

Patients shall be transported to the tub room with the appropriate personnel and equipment based on the patient's stability.

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.

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