

Burn treatments

Reference No: 041/2017

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Request

1. What medical interventions are fire crews trained/able to deliver to a burns casualty at the scene in absence of ambulance service support?
2. What is your current practice for thermal burns first aid in terms of irrigant/coolant applied, the advocated temperature of coolant and expected duration of cooling?

Response

1. Key staff trained to FPOS intermediate. Oxygen therapy and defibrillation if required. Use of bottled water saline solution(eyewash) or appliance hose reel for irrigation. Application of Burn Shield tea tree gel and dressings, Water Jel burn dressing, Kool Pak instant ice pack.
2. The temperature of coolant is not controlled as it is equipment which is stored on the appliance and would be ambient when applied. Cooling should only be applied to 25% of the body as it can cause hypothermia. The dressings are not normally removed and the casualty would be handed over to the paramedics.
 - Burn Shield tea tree gel
 - Burn Shield dressings
 - Water Jel burn dressing
 - Kool Pak instant ice pack