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TREATMENT PROTOCOL

BURNS

1. Symptoms/Presentation:

- 1st Degree – Redness, discoloration, mild swelling and pain
- 2nd Degree – Redness, blisters, may look wet from loss of fluids through damaged skin layers, severe pain
- 3rd Degree – Skin may appear white, black or charred, very little pain sometimes

2. Wear disposable gloves when treating inmate.

3. Call 9-1-1 Dispatch for Emergency Medical Services (EMS) for any 3rd degree burn injuries:

- Have inmate lie down.
- Elevate the burned area, when possible.

4. If 1st degree burn with no blisters present:

- Flush area with lots of cool running water.
- Apply loose dressing.
- May give two Tylenol and/or ibuprofen tablets for pain if not contraindicated.
- Refer inmate to nurse for follow-up care.

5. If 2nd degree burn:

- Flush are with copious amounts of cool running water.
- Give 1000mg Tylenol and/or 600mg ibuprofen for pain if not contraindicated.
- Perform wound care and cover with burn cream and loose dressing
- Refer to Medical Director for same-day evaluation or consider emergency department transfer if burn covers large surface area or is circumferential on the hands or feet.