Prevention of Campfire Burns

Factsheet



Care • Prevention • Research • Education

- Flame burns from campfires are a common cause of burn injury to young adults in Australia, and often caused by flammable liquid being added to the campfire.
- These burns typically occur in men aged 15 -35 years, but can happen to anyone.
- Burns usually occur to the hands, arms and legs and are often extensive requiring admission and surgery.



- ✓ Do check fire regulations before lighting a campfire
- ✓ Do clear an area around the campfire
- ✓ Do use a ring of stones to mark out an area around the campfire
- ✓ Do use a portable fuel stove rather than an open fire if possible
- ✓ Do light campfires in designated places only
- ✓ Do extinguish fires completely with water before going to bed and when leaving the site
- ✓ Do extinguish cigarette butts completely and take them with you



- Do not add accelerants of any type to a smouldering or lit campfire
- Do not throw aerosols into a campfire
- Do not throw non-combustibles into fires
- Do not allow children to be unsupervised near a campfire
- Do not cover campfire with sand or dirt
- ➤ Do not light fires during a Total Fire Ban
- Do not light campfires on windy days



First Aid for Burns

If you, or someone you know is burnt, take the following actions:

- 1. Remove clothing and jewellery
- 2. Apply cool running water to the burn for at least 20 minutes
- 3. Cover burn with clean cloth and keep the patient warm **Do NOT use ice, butter, creams, etc**
- 4. Seek medical attention for any burn bigger than 3cm, or with blisters, or if any other concerns are present

For more information go to www.anzba.org.au