

TITLE: Treatment and Transfer Guidelines of Burn Injured Personnel.

EFFECTIVE DATE: _____ / _____ /20__

PURPOSE: To establish protocols facilitating the safe consultation or transfer of burn injured patients to the proper facility for _____ Fire Department, in accordance with American Burn Association guidelines and municipal, state or union policies.

SCOPE: All _____ Fire Department personnel

RESPONSIBILITY: All _____ Fire Department personnel.

DEFINITIONS: For the purposes of this policy burn injury includes all of the following categories; flame, scald/steam, chemical, electrical, contact burns and smoke inhalation injury.

A burn treatment facility is a medical facility dedicated to the comprehensive care and rehabilitation of burn injured patients and is recognized by the American Burn Association. *(Consult the American Burn Association for a list of burn centers and insert contact information)*

POLICY: In accordance with established American Burn Association recommendations, all burn injured personnel meeting criteria for transport to a burn treatment facility, as determined through consultation with a burn physician, will be transferred as soon as possible after primary stabilization is established.

Any burn-injured patient not requiring burn center admission, or their designated representative, may contact a certified burn treatment facility for outpatient consultative and/or follow-up burn wound care.

TRANSFER CRITERIA: American Burn Association Referral Criteria includes:

- Partial Thickness (2°) burns greater than 10% total burn surface area
- Full Thickness (3°) burns in any age group
- Burns to the face, hands, feet, genitalia or major joints
- Electrical, Chemical or Smoke Inhalation burns
- Patients with pre-existing serious medical history
- Patients with concomitant trauma. Follow regional medical control and transfer procedures for individuals with burns and trauma
- Extensive social, emotional or long-term rehabilitation support
- Pediatric burns

PROCEDURE: Any person meeting criteria may be transferred to a regional certified burn treatment facility.

- Transport may be by air or ground, and will be determined at the time of transfer or referral. Direct transfer is determined by local emergency medical personnel and/ or the receiving burn facility. Interfacility transfer is determined by the referring physician and the burn center physician.
- Outpatient consultation or follow-up appointments may be arranged by contacting the nearest burn center
- Any individual, medical or non-medical, may contact a burn center directly to request care or inquire about proper medical treatment.

For all burn patients with concomitant traumatic injuries, trauma care will take precedence, requiring immediate transfer to a trauma service. Once life-threatening trauma is resolved or the patient is medically stable, transfer arrangements to a burn treatment facility may be arranged by contacting the burn treatment facility directly.

EDUCATIONAL TRAINING AND INSERVICING: Many burn centers offer, educational presentations on stabilization and transport of the burn patient. To arrange one of these programs contact a burn center in your region. Consult the American Burn Association website at www.ameriburn for a list of burn centers

Name/Title

Date