# **UNIT TERMINAL OBJECTIVE**

4-3 At the completion of this unit, the EMT-Intermediate student will be able to utilize the assessment findings to formulate a field impression and implement the management plan for the patient with a burn injury.

### **COGNITIVE OBJECTIVES**

At the completion of this unit, the EMT-Intermediate student will be able to:

- 4-3.1 Describe the anatomy and physiology pertinent to burn injuries. (C-1)
- 4-3.2 Describe the epidemiology, including incidence, morbidity/ mortality, risk factors, and prevention strategies for the patient with a burn injury. (C-1)
- 4-3.3 Describe the pathophysiologic complications and systemic complications of a burn injury. (C-1)
- 4-3.4 Identify and describe types of burn injuries, including a thermal burn, an inhalation burn, a chemical burn, an electrical burn, and a radiation exposure. (C-1)
- 4-3.5 Identify and describe the depth classifications of burn injuries, including a superficial burn, a partial-thickness burn, a full-thickness burn, and other depth classifications described by local protocol. (C-1)
- 4-3.6 Identify and describe methods for determining body surface area percentage of a burn injury including the "rules of nines," the "rules of palms," and other methods described by local protocol. (C-1)
- 4-3.7 Identify and describe the severity of a burn including a minor burn, a moderate burn, a severe burn, and other severity classifications described by local protocol. (C-1)
- 4-3.8 Differentiate criteria for determining the severity of a burn injury between a pediatric patient and an adult patient. (C-3)
- 4-3.9 Describe special considerations for a pediatric patient with a burn injury. (C-1)
- 4-3.10 Discuss considerations which impact management and prognosis of the burn injured patient. (C-1)
- 4-3.11 Discuss mechanisms of burn injuries. (C-1)
- 4-3.12 Discuss conditions associated with burn injuries, including trauma, blast injuries, airway compromise, respiratory compromise, and child abuse. (C-1)
- 4-3.13 Describe the management of a burn injury, including airway and ventilation, circulation, pharmacologic, non-pharmacologic, transport considerations, psychological support/ communication strategies, and other management described by local protocol. (C-1)
- 4-3.14 Describe the epidemiology of a thermal burn injury. (C-1)
- 4-3.15 Describe the specific anatomy and physiology pertinent to a thermal burn injury. (C-1)
- 4-3.16 Describe the pathophysiology of a thermal burn injury. (C-1)
- 4-3.17 Identify and describe the depth classifications of a thermal burn injury. (C-1)
- 4-3.18 Identify and describe the severity of a thermal burn injury. (C-1)
- 4-3.19 Describe considerations which impact management and prognosis of the patient with a thermal burn injury. (C-1)
- 4-3.20 Discuss mechanisms of burn injury and conditions associated with a thermal burn injury. (C-1)
- 4-3.21 Describe the management of a thermal burn injury, including airway and ventilation, circulation, pharmacologic, non-pharmacologic, transport considerations, and psychological support/ communication strategies. (C-1)
- 4-3.22 Describe the epidemiology of an inhalation burn injury. (C-1)
- 4-3.23 Describe the specific anatomy and physiology pertinent to an inhalation burn injury. (C-1)
- 4-3.24 Describe the pathophysiology of an inhalation burn injury. (C-1)
- 4-3.25 Differentiate between supraglottic and infraglottic inhalation injuries. (C-3)
- 4-3.26 Identify and describe the severity of an inhalation burn injury. (C-1)
- 4-3.27 Describe considerations which impact management and prognosis of the patient with an inhalation burn

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- injury. (C-1)
- 4-3.28 Discuss mechanisms of burn injury and conditions associated with an inhalation burn injury. (C-1)
- 4-3.29 Describe the management of an inhalation burn injury, including airway and ventilation, circulation, pharmacologic, non-pharmacologic, transport considerations, and psychological support/ communication strategies. (C-1)
- 4-3.30 Describe the epidemiology of a chemical burn injury and a chemical burn injury to the eye. (C-1)
- 4-3.31 Describe the specific anatomy and physiology pertinent to a chemical burn injury and a chemical burn injury to the eye. (C-1)
- 4-3.32 Describe the pathophysiology of a chemical burn injury, including types of chemicals and their burning processes and a chemical burn injury to the eye. (C-1)
- 4-3.33 Identify and describe the depth classifications of a chemical burn injury. (C-1)
- 4-3.34 Identify and describe the severity of a chemical burn injury. (C-1)
- 4-3.35 Describe considerations which impact management and prognosis of the patient with a chemical burn injury and a chemical burn injury to the eye. (C-1)
- 4-3.36 Discuss mechanisms of burn injury and conditions associated with a chemical burn injury. (C-1)
- 4-3.37 Describe the management of a chemical burn injury and a chemical burn injury to the eye, including airway and ventilation, circulation, pharmacologic, non-pharmacologic, transport considerations, and psychological support/ communication strategies. (C-1)
- 4-3.38 Describe the epidemiology of an electrical burn injury. (C-1)
- 4-3.39 Describe the specific anatomy and physiology pertinent to an electrical burn injury. (C-1)
- 4-3.40 Describe the pathophysiology of an electrical burn injury. (C-1)
- 4-3.41 Identify and describe the depth classifications of an electrical burn injury. (C-1)
- 4-3.42 Identify and describe the severity of an electrical burn injury. (C-1)
- 4-3.43 Describe considerations which impact management and prognosis of the patient with an electrical burn injury. (C-1)
- 4-3.44 Discuss mechanisms of burn injury and conditions associated with an electrical burn injury. (C-1)
- 4-3.45 Describe the management of an electrical burn injury, including airway and ventilation, circulation, pharmacologic, non-pharmacologic, transport considerations, and psychological support/ communication strategies. (C-1)
- 4-3.46 Describe the epidemiology of a radiation exposure. (C-1)
- 4-3.47 Describe the specific anatomy and physiology pertinent to a radiation exposure. (C-1)
- 4-3.48 Describe the pathophysiology of a radiation exposure, including the types and characteristics of ionizing radiation. (C-1)
- 4-3.49 Identify and describe the depth classifications of a radiation exposure. (C-1)
- 4-3.50 Identify and describe the severity of a radiation exposure. (C-1)
- 4-3.51 Describe considerations which impact management and prognosis of the patient with a radiation exposure. (C-1)
- 4-3.52 Discuss mechanisms of burn injury associated with a radiation exposure. (C-1)
- 4-3.53 Describe the management of a radiation exposure, including airway and ventilation, circulation, pharmacologic, non-pharmacologic, transport considerations, and psychological support/ communication strategies. (C-1)
- 4-3.54 Apply the to formulate a field impression and implement the management plan for a thermal burn injury. (C-3)
- 4-3.55 Apply the to formulate a field impression and implement the management plan for an inhalation burn injury. (C-3)
- 4-3.56 Apply the to formulate a field impression and implement the management plan for a chemical burn injury. (C-3)

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- 4-3.57 Apply the to formulate a field impression and implement the management plan for an electrical burn injury. (C-3)
- 4-3.58 Apply the to formulate a field impression and implement the management plan for an radiation exposure. (C-3)

# **AFFECTIVE OBJECTIVES**

At the completion of this unit, the EMT-Intermediate student will be able to:

- 4-3.59 Value the changes of a patient's self-image associated with a burn injury. (A-2)
- 4-3.60 Value the impact of managing a burn injured patient. (A-2)
- 4-3.61 Advocate empathy for a burn injured patient. (A-2)
- 4-3.62 Value and defend the sense of urgency in burn injuries. (A-3)

#### **PSYCHOMOTOR OBJECTIVES**

At the completion of this unit, the EMT-Intermediate student will be able to:

- 4-3.63 Take body substance isolation procedures during assessment and management of patients with a burn injury. (P-2)
- 4-3.64 Perform assessment of a patient with a burn injury. (P-2)

#### **DECLARATIVE**

- I. Introduction
  - A. Epidemiology
    - 1. Incidence
      - a. Supportive statistics
    - 2. Morbidity/ mortality
      - a. Supportive statistics
    - 3. Risk factors
    - 4. Prevention strategies
  - B. Review the anatomy and physiology of the integumentary system
- II. General system pathophysiology, assessment, and management
  - A. Pathophysiology
    - 1. Pathophysiologic and systemic complications of a burn injury
      - a. Fluid loss
      - b. Electrolyte loss
      - c. Increased catecholamine release
      - d. Acidosis
      - e. Vasoconstriction
      - f. Renal failure
      - g. Liver failure
      - h. Heart failure
      - i. Hypoxia
      - j. Anoxia
      - k. Arrhythmia
      - I. Formation of eschar
      - m. Hypothermia
      - n. Hypovolemia
      - o. Infection
      - p. Complications of a circumferential burn
  - B. Assessment findings
    - 1. Types of burn injuries
      - a. Thermal
      - b. Inhalation
      - c. Chemical
      - d. Electrical
        - (1) Lightning
      - e. Radiation exposure
    - 2. Depth classification of a burn injury
      - a. Superficial
      - b. Partial-thickness.
      - c. Full-thickness
      - d. Other depth classifications according to local protocol
    - 3. Methods for determining body surface area percentage of a burn injury
      - a. The "rule of nines"
        - (1) Adult

- (2) Pediatric
- b. The "rule of palms"
- c. Other methods according to local protocol
- 4. Severity of a burn
  - a. Minor
  - b. Moderate
  - c. Severe
  - d. Other severity classifications according to local protocol
- 5. Criteria for determining severity of a burn injury
  - a. The adult patient
  - b. The pediatric patient
    - (1) Special considerations
- 6. Considerations which impact management and prognosis of the burn injured patient
  - a. Age
  - b. Preexisting medical conditions
  - c. Trauma
- 7. Mechanisms of burn injuries
  - a. Burn trauma
  - b. Blast/ explosion trauma
  - c. Fall injury
  - d. Other injuries
- 8. Conditions associated with burn injuries
  - a. Trauma
    - (1) Soft tissue injuries
    - (2) Musculoskeletal injuries
  - b. Blast injuries
  - c. Airway compromise
  - d. Respiratory compromise
  - e. Child abuse
- 9. Signs and symptoms of burn injuries
  - a. Pair
  - b. Changes in skin condition relative to the affected burn site
  - c. Adventitious sounds
  - d. Sloughing of the affected skin
  - e. Hoarseness
  - f. Dysphagia
  - g. Dysphasia
  - h. Burnt hair
  - i. Nausea/ vomiting
  - j. Unconsciousness
  - k. Altered level of consciousness
  - I. Edema
  - m. Paresthesia
  - n. Hemorrhage
  - o. Other soft tissue injuries
  - p. Musculoskeletal injuries
  - q. Dyspnea

- r. Chest pain
- C. Management
  - Airway and ventilatory support
  - 2. Circulatory support
  - 3. Pharmacological interventions
    - a. Analgesia
  - 4. Non-pharmacological interventions
  - 5. Transport considerations
    - a. Appropriate mode
    - b. Appropriate facility
  - 6. Psychological support/ communication strategies
    - a. Patient and family advocacy

# III. Specific burn injuries

- A. Thermal burn injury
  - 1. Epidemiology of a thermal burn injury
    - a. Incidence
      - (1) Supportive statistics
    - b. Morbidity/ mortality
      - (1) Supportive statistics
    - c. Risk factors
    - d. Prevention strategies
  - 2. Review the specific anatomy and physiology pertinent to the integumentary system
  - 3. Review of heat energy and the components of the burning agent
  - 4. Pathophysiology of a thermal burn injury
    - a. The process of burn shock
      - (1) Emergent phase
      - (2) Fluid shift phase
      - (3) Hypermetabolic phase
      - (4) Resolution phase
    - b. Inhalation injury (present in 60-70% of all burn patients who die)
      - (1) Carbon monoxide poisoning
      - (2) Cyanide intoxication
    - c. Infectious insult
    - d. Eschar formation
      - (1) Respiratory compromise secondary to circumferential eschar around the
      - (2) Circulatory compromise secondary to circumferential eschar around an extremity
      - (3) Escharotomies
  - 5. Assessment findings
    - a. Depth classifications of a thermal burn
    - b. Severity of a thermal burn
    - c. Criteria for determining severity of a burn injury
      - (1) The adult patient
      - (2) The pediatric patient
    - d. Considerations which impact care and prognosis of the thermal burn injured

patient

- e. Mechanisms of burn injury
  - (1) Scalding
  - (2) Steam
  - (3) Flame
  - (4) Flash
  - (5) Retained heat
  - (6) Other trauma
- f. Conditions associated with thermal burn injuries
- 6. Management
  - a. Remove patient to safe area
  - b. Stop the burning process
  - c. Airway and ventilatory support
  - d. Circulatory support
  - e. Pharmacological interventions
    - (1) Topical applications
    - (2) Tetanus and antibiotic therapy
    - (3) Fluid therapy
  - f. Non-pharmacological interventions
    - (1) Thermal burn injury management according to local protocol
  - g. Transport considerations
    - (1) Appropriate mode
    - (2) Appropriate facility
    - (3) Transport considerations in conjunction with burn injury management according to local protocol
  - h. Psychological support/ communication strategies
- B. Inhalation burn injury
  - Epidemiology
    - a. Incidence
      - (1) Supportive statistics (e.g., 20-35% of the patients admitted to burn centers have an inhalation injury)
      - (2) Chemical inhalation injuries are more frequent than thermal inhalation injuries
    - b. Morbidity/ mortality
      - (1) Supportive statistics
    - c. Risk factors
      - (1) Often associated with a burn environment
      - (2) Factors that increase the risk for inhalation injury
        - (a) Standing
        - (b) Screaming
        - (c) Enclosed area
    - d. Prevention strategies
  - 2. Review the specific anatomy and physiology pertinent to the respiratory system
  - 3. Pathophysiology
    - a. Compromises the upper airway (supraglottic)
    - b. Compromises the lower airway (infraglottic)
    - c. Complications may occur later

- 4. Assessment findings
  - a. Mechanism of injury
    - (1) Toxic inhalations
    - (2) Smoke inhalation
    - (3) Carbon monoxide poisoning
    - (4) Thiocyanate intoxication
    - (5) Thermal burn
    - (6) Chemical burn
  - b. Criteria for determining severity of a burn injury
    - (1) The adult patient
    - (2) The pediatric patient
  - c. Considerations which impact care and prognosis
  - d. Conditions associated with inhalation burn trauma
- 5. Focused history
- 6. Management
  - a. Airway and ventilatory support
  - b. Circulatory support
  - c. Pharmacological interventions
  - d. Non-pharmacological interventions
    - (1) Thermal burn injury management according to local protocol
    - (2) Hyperbaric therapy for carbon monoxide
  - e. Transport considerations
    - (1) Appropriate mode
    - (2) Appropriate facility
    - Psychological support/ communication strategies
- C. Chemical burn injury

f.

- 1. Epidemiology
  - a. Incidence
    - (1) Supportive statistics
  - b. Morbidity/ mortality
    - (1) Supportive statistics
  - c. Risk factors
  - d. Prevention strategies
- 2. Anatomy and physiology review
- 3. Pathophysiology
  - a. Types of chemicals which cause chemical burn injuries
    - (1) Acids
    - (2) Bases (alkali)
      - (a) Cement
    - (3) Dry chemicals
    - (4) Phenols
  - b. Characteristics of the burning process of chemicals
    - (1) The burning process of an acid
    - (2) The burning process of an alkali
    - (3) The burning process of dry chemicals
- 4. Assessment
  - a. Mechanism of injury

- (1) Industrial accidents most frequent
- b. Depth classification
- c. Severity
- d. Criteria for determining severity of a burn injury
  - (1) The adult patient
  - (2) The pediatric patient
- e. Considerations which impact care and prognosis of a chemical burn injured patient
- 5. Management
  - a. Airway and ventilatory support
  - b. Circulatory support
  - c. Pharmacological interventions
  - d. Non-pharmacological interventions
    - (1) Acid burn injury management according to local protocol
    - (2) Alkali burn injury management according to local protocol
    - (3) Chemical burn injury according to local protocol
    - (4) Dry chemical burn injury according to local protocol
  - e. Transport considerations
    - (1) Appropriate mode
    - (2) Appropriate facility
    - Psychological support/ communication strategies
- D. Chemical burn injury of the eye

f.

- Epidemiology
  - a. Incidence
    - (1) Supportive statistics
  - b. Morbidity/ mortality
    - (1) Supportive statistics
  - c. Risk factors
  - d. Prevention strategies
- 2. Anatomy and physiology review of the eye
- Pathophysiology
  - a. Types of chemicals which cause chemical burn injuries to the eye
    - (1) Acids
    - (2) Bases (alkali)
      - (a) Cement
    - (3) Dry chemicals
    - (4) Phenols
    - (5) Mace/ pepper spray
- Assessment
  - a. Mechanism of injury
    - (1) Industrial accidents most frequent
  - b. Severity
  - c. Criteria for determining severity of a eye injury
  - d. Considerations which impact care and prognosis of a chemical injury to the eye
- 5. Management
  - a. Airway and ventilatory support
  - b. Circulatory support

- c. Pharmacological interventions
- d. Non-pharmacological interventions
- e. Transport considerations
  - (1) Appropriate mode
  - (2) Appropriate facility
- f. Psychological support/ communication strategies
- E. Electrical burn injuries
  - 1. Epidemiology
    - a. Incidence
      - (1) Supportive statistics
    - b. Morbidity/ mortality
      - (1) Supportive statistics
    - c. Risk factors
    - d. Prevention strategies
  - 2. Anatomy and physiology review
  - 3. Review of the characteristics of electrical current
  - 4. Pathophysiology
    - a. External burn injuries
    - b. Internal burn injuries
    - c. Musculoskeletal injuries
    - d. Cardiovascular injuries
    - e. Respiratory injuries
    - f. Neurological injuries
    - g. Myoglobin release and renal involvement
  - 5. Assessment
    - a. Mechanism of injury
      - (1) Contact burn injuries
      - (2) Arc injuries
      - (3) Flame or flash burn injuries
        - (a) Welder's flash
      - (4) Lightning injuries
        - (a) Direct stroke
        - (b) Side flash (splash)
        - (c) Step voltage
    - b. Depth classification
    - c. Severity
    - d. Criteria for determining severity of an electrical burn injury
      - (1) The adult patient
      - (2) The pediatric patient
    - e. Considerations which impact care and prognosis of an electrical burn injured patient
  - 6. Management
    - a. Airway and ventilatory support
    - b. Circulatory support
    - c. Pharmacological interventions
    - d. Non-pharmacological interventions
      - (1) Electrical burn injury management according to local protocol

- e. Transport considerations
  - (1) Appropriate mode
  - (2) Appropriate facility
- f. Psychological support/ communication strategies
- F. Radiation exposure
  - Epidemiology
    - a. Incidence
      - (1) Supportive statistics
    - b. Morbidity/ mortality
      - (1) Supportive statistics
    - c. Risk factors
      - (1) Accidents associated with the improper handling of radiological materials
    - d. Prevention strategies
  - 2. Anatomy and physiology review
  - 3. Types of radiation which cause burn injury
    - a. Alpha radiation
    - b. Beta radiation
    - c. Gamma radiation
  - 4. Characteristics of ionizing radiation
    - a. Alpha radiation
    - b. Beta radiation
    - c. Gamma radiation
  - 5. Aspects of exposure
    - a. Duration of exposure
    - b. Distance from the source
    - c. Shielding
  - 6. Other considerations of exposure
    - a. Direct exposure to ionizing radiation
    - b. Exposure to contaminants containing small particles of active material
  - 7. Assessment
    - a. Mechanism of injury
    - b. Depth classifications
      - (1) Immediate versus delayed injuries and effects
    - c. Severity
      - (1) Immediate versus delayed injuries and effects
    - d. Criteria for determining severity of a radiation exposure and associated burn injury
      - (1) The adult patient
      - (2) The pediatric patient
    - e. Considerations which impact care and prognosis of a radiation exposure and burn injuries
  - 8. Management
    - a. Scene safety
    - b. Airway and ventilatory support
    - c. Circulatory support
    - d. Pharmacological interventions

- Non-pharmacological interventions e.
  - Injury management according to local protocol (1)
  - Management of a radiation accident scene (2)
- Transport considerations f.
  - Appropriate mode (1)
- (2) Appropriate facility
  Psychological support/ communication strategies g.