

Integrating Pediatric Burn Patients, Less Than 12 Years Old, Into an Adult Burn ICU Setting

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The Regional Burn Center
Lehigh Valley Health Network, Allentown, Pennsylvania

Background

Hospitals vary widely in the services they can offer pediatric burn patients. The presenting academic community Magnet® hospital had the capacity to handle pediatric burn care; however, the ability to integrate burn patients less than 12 years old onto an adult burn intensive care unit (ICU) was a challenge. This presentation details staff driven processes to ensure optimal burn care for pediatric burn patients in an otherwise adult care setting.

Goal

Develop a care delivery model to integrate burn care and pediatric specialties consistent with best practice standards of care.

Staff Needs Assessment → Pediatric Focused Education



- Pediatric Unit Observation Days
- Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU) Observation Days
- Pediatric Burn Education Day
- PALS certification



Tools for Success

- **Resource Manual** – age-specific education on pediatric patients.
- **Reference Cards** – containing burn specific information
- **Pediatric Supply Cart** – specific to meet the physical needs of infants and children

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Barriers

- Limited space
- Availability of pediatric supplies
- Staff confidence and competencies

Interprofessional Pediatric Care Team

Burn Surgeons	Dietician
Pediatric Physicians	Case Manager
Nurse Manager	Child Life Specialist
Physical Therapist	Licensed Clinical Social Worker
Occupational Therapist	Chaplain
Burn Registered Nurses (RNs)	Burn Clinic Providers
Pediatric RNs	Certified Physician Assistants
Pediatric Respiratory Therapists	

Consultation with specialists occurs within 24 hours of a pediatric admission to the burn center

Consultations

Creating clinically competent pediatric burn nurses by providing necessary education and resources ensures the competence and confidence to optimally care for infants and children in an otherwise adult setting.



Since July 2014, 28 patients under age 12 were admitted and treated in the Adult Burn ICU.

Win-Win

Ongoing staff needs assessments, additional pediatric-focused education, updated and accessible references and collaboration with pediatric care team.



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