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

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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.

**Staff Needs Assessment**
- Pediatric Unit Observation Days
- Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU) Observation Days
- Pediatric Burn Education Day
- PALS certification

**Pediatric Focused Education**
- Consultations with specialists occur within 24 hours of a pediatric admission to the burn center
- Dietician
- Case Manager
- Child Life Specialist
- Licensed Clinical Social Worker
- Chaplain
- Burn Clinic Providers
- Certified Physician Assistants

**Tools for Success**
- Reference Cards – containing burn specific information
- Pediatric Supply Cart – specific to meet the physical needs of infants and children

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

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

**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.

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

Positive Nurse and Patient Experiences