Burns can damage skin or even layers of fat, muscle and bone underneath the skin. They are classified by their depth; in general, the deeper the burn, the more severe it is.

Call 9-1-1 for any critical burn, such as:

- Any burn that involves the head, neck, mouth or nose or causes trouble breathing.
- Any burn to the hands, feet or genitals.
- Any burn that covers more than one body part or covers a large area.
- Any chemical or electrical burn.
- Any burn that was caused by an explosion.

**THERMAL BURNS (HEAT BURNS)**

**What to Look For**

- Red and dry skin
- Pain and swelling
- Blistering
- Skin that is broken

Signals of a deep burn:

- Red skin with blisters that may open and ooze clear fluid
- Skin may appear brown or black
- Can range from painful to painless

**Care**

- Reassure the child or infant.
- Stop the burning by separating the child and the source of the burn.
- Cool the burn. Use large amounts of cool running water until pain is relieved. Do not use ice.
- If the burn requires further medical care, cover the burn loosely with a nonstick sterile dressing.
- Do not put butter, creams or ointments on any burn, unless instructed by a medical professional.
- Remember, you should always notify the parents and discuss any care provided.

*Continued on next page*
CHEMICAL BURNS

What to Look For

- Chemical on the skin
- Inflamed or red skin, or skin that is an unusual color
- Pain or a burning or stinging sensation

Care

- Reassure the child or infant.
- Send someone to call 9-1-1 or the local emergency number.
- Remember, you should always notify the parents and discuss any care provided.

If the chemical is a dry chemical:

- Remove any jewelry or clothing that may trap the chemicals against the skin or that might have chemicals on them.
- Brush dry chemicals off the skin with a gloved hand before flushing the area with large amounts of cool water.
- Be sure not to get any of the chemicals in your eyes or in the eyes of the child or infant.

If the chemical is a wet chemical:

- Remove any jewelry or clothing that may trap the chemicals against the skin or that might have chemicals on them.
- Flush the area with large amounts of cool running water for at least 20 minutes or until emergency medical services (EMS) personnel arrive.
- Always flush away from yourself and the body of the child or infant who was burned.

Continued on next page
**ELECTRICAL BURNS**

**What to Look For**
- Burn marks on the skin (where the current went in and where it went out of the body)
- Unconsciousness
- Dazed, confused behavior
- Difficulty breathing

**Care**
- Check the scene for safety.
- Do not go near the child or infant until the power is turned off at the source, such as the main circuit breaker. Remember, however, that cordless and some other home telephones may not work without power. Do not go near downed power lines.
- Check the child.
- Reassure the child or infant.
- Send someone to call 9-1-1 or the local emergency number.
- Care for any life-threatening emergencies, if trained to do so.
- Care for any burns, following general burn care.
- Remember, you should always notify the parents and discuss any care provided.

**RADIATION BURNS (SUNBURNS)**

**What to Look For**
- Red, painful skin that may have blisters
- Swelling

**Care**
- Reassure the child.
- Protect the skin from further damage by keeping the child out of the sun.
- Cool the burn by holding it under cool running water, fanning the area or applying cool compresses.
- Protect unbroken blisters by covering them with loose bandages and provide care for any broken blisters.
- Remember, you should always notify the parents and discuss any care provided.