

Burnt hand

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Introduction

- Every now and then a patient burns his/her hand with fire or hot water, e.g. when pouring fuel on a 'braai' fire.
- Initially it can be difficult to evaluate the extent and the degree of the burns.
- The burns are extremely painful and it often is a problem to select the correct cream or ointment, or an appropriate type of dressing for wound care.

Method of burn care

- Half fill a **plastic** glove with Flamazine® Cream, or other Silver sulphadiazine cream.
- The patient now puts the burnt hand into the glove.
- Fasten / seal the proximal part of the glove around the wrist with, for example, Opsite®.
- The hand can then be bandaged loosely with for example, a Crepe bandage.

Flamazine cream and plastic glove



Glove being filled with Flamazine cream



Glove on burnt hand



Further management

- Don't forget the **painkillers!**
- The patient returns about 12 hours later for removal of the dressing and inspection of the hand.
- Further management will depend on your assessment.
- (Try not to use a Latex or rubber glove, because of possible Latex sensitivity).