

When a burn occurs, seconds count! Burn injuries should be cooled immediately, otherwise the heat will continue to destroy the surrounding and underlying tissue, and may progress a partial thickness (second degree) burn into a full thickness (third degree) burn injury. This, in turn, will present serious consequences for the patient.

Water-Jel Burn Dressings are a gelatinized water mix designed to perform the four critical steps for burn management in one application. Because of their gelatinous nature, they seal the burn from further contamination, they cool the burn site and relieve pain by heat transfer into themselves, and the fluids on the burn site cannot soak into the dressing nor can they evaporate through them

A. Procedure

General Care

EMR/BLS

1. Immediately stop the burning process—*seconds count!*
2. Cool the burn—don't overcool the victim. Burn victims can easily and quickly become hypothermic.
3. First and some second degree burns (< 15% TBSA), may be treated with Water-Jel burn dressings. Second degree burns meeting trauma criteria and/or third degree burns will be treated with dry sterile dressings.
4. Do not break any blisters
5. Remove burned clothing. If clothing adheres to the burned body parts, do not attempt to pull it off. Simply leave it in place; any remaining clothing will be removed with the burned tissue during debridement.
6. Remove jewelry with any significant burn injury. Even in non-burned areas, patients may later exhibit significant generalized swelling.
7. Cover and protect the burn area against contamination.