# FIRST AID FOR BURNS



# THERMAL BURNS



Caused by:

Hot liquids, steam, fire, other heat sources

## CHEMICAL BURNS



Caused by:

Acids, alkalis, or other corrosive substances

#### FIRST AID TREATMENT

- **Cool the Burn:** Immediately run cool (NOT cold) water over burn for several minutes <u>or</u> apply cool, wet compress.
- Cover the Burn: To protect the burn, use a sterile, non-fluffy dressing or a clean cloth.
- Avoid Ice: Never use ice, it can cause further damage to skin.
- Pain Relief: Can use over-the-counter medications (i.e., ibuprofen or acetaminophen).

#### FIRST AID TREATMENT

- Remove the Chemical: Quickly remove contaminated clothing, jewelry, or other items while avoiding additional contact with chemical.
- Rinse and Clear: Flush affected area with cool running water for 10-20 minutes minimum.
   Note: Alkali burns may require longer flushing.
- Seek Medical Help: After rinsing, cover burn with a clean cloth and seek medical attention immediately.

Note: Over time, chemical burns can continue to damage tissue.



### **ELECTRICAL BURNS**

Caused by:

Exposure to electrical current

#### FIRST AID TREATMENT

- **Respond Safely:** Ensure source of electricity is turned off before touching the injured individual to avoid electrocution.
- Call for Help: Call emergency services immediately.
  Note: Electrical burns often cause internal damage that is not visible.
- **Do Not Cool the Burn:** Cooling is not recommended for electrical burns, as it may complicate the assessment of internal injuries.
- Cover the Burn: Cover the burn with a clean, dry cloth until medical help arrives.

## SIGNS & SYMPTOMS OF BURN SEVERITY



#### **First-Degree Burns**

- Redness
- Pain
- Swelling
- No blisters



#### **Second-Degree Burns**

- Blisters
- Redness & swelling
- Pain
- Wet/moist appearance



#### **Third-Degree Burns**

- · Charred or white skin
- Lack of pain
- No blisters
- Insensitivity to touch