

National Network for Burn Care | July 2011

Specialised Services e-news is written to update you with the work of the National Network for Burn Care. For more information visit <http://www.specialisedservices.nhs.uk/burncare>

National Burn Care Standards Consultation

The National Network for Burn Care (NNBC) has undertaken a review of the current Burn Care Standards. A multi-disciplinary group, chaired by Owen Jones (Network Manager, Midlands Burn Care Network) has developed an updated version of the standards for consultation.

Burn Care Emergency Planning Guidance

The new version of the Burns Emergency Planning Guidance has now been published by the Department of Health. Titled "NHS Emergency Planning Guidance - Planning for the management of burn-injured patients in the event of a major incident".

Work is now underway to ensure it is implemented locally – through the development of Burn Care Network and Burn Care Service Major Incident Plans. A desk-top exercise (NHS Vulcan) will take place during early November which will test regional and national plans in relation to emergency preparedness for a burns major incident.

National Burn Bed Bureau

The NNBC has agreed proposals to improve the National Burn Bed Bureau service. The improvements will mean the bed bureau continues to respond to calls to enable clinicians to source an appropriate burn bed for either primary or secondary transfers and also provides a resilient service to quantify national burn bed availability in the event of a major incident. The intention is to develop a web-based system to capture and monitor daily bed availability that will compliment the bed bureau service. The National Burn Bed Bureau is run by West Midlands Ambulance Service NHS Trust.

Access to Specialised Burn Care

A key recommendation of the National Burn care Review (2001) was that all burn care injuries requiring hospitalisation should only be admitted under the care of specifically trained specialist staff. The NNBC and regional Burn Care Networks have been reviewing "HES" Data to understand the extent to which in-patient burn care activity is taking place in hospitals that are not currently recognised providers of specialised burn care services. This important issue will be kept on the agenda for the NNBC over the coming year.

For a full list of all current designated or "recognised" Specialised Burn Care providers across England and Wales contact burncare@nhs.net.

Northern Burn Care Network - Integrated Patient Care Pathways

The Northern Burn Care Network have developed and agreed care pathways for each stage of the burn patient pathway (for both children and adults). The work was recently presented to the National Network for Burn Care. Work is now commencing on the implementation of the agreed pathways across the Northern Network. For more information visit contact burncare@nhs.net

London and South East England Specialised Burns Project

Specialised Commissioning Groups across London and South East England have commissioned this specialised burns project to identify the extent to which and how specialised burn services in the area need to change to ensure services are clinically and financially sustainable, and have the ability to provide the best possible patient care and outcomes for the future. London Health Programmes manage this work programme. The programme has agreed the “Case for Change” and is working on the development of the future model of care. For more information on this project contact burncare@nhs.net

Nathan Hall, National Burn Care
Programme Lead burncare@nhs.net

Comment is welcome through your Support Group