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Analysis and outcome of infantile burn

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Objective: The aim of this study is to determine the causes, incidence; sex distribution, nature of injury and outcome of infants with burn.

Methods: This is retrospective study done at plastic surgery, burn unit of Patel Hospital during period of 7 years from January 2007 to December 2013. Children ageing one year or less at the time of admission were included in the study. SPSS 21 version was used for statistical analysis.

Results: Total 789 pediatric burn patients were admitted in Patel Hospital during January 2007 to December 2013, in which 106 were infants. 83 (78.3%) infants had scald burn and 21 (19.8%) had fire burn. Male female ratio was 1.5:1. Common cause of scald burn was hot water 62.7%. The majority of infants 39.6% and 40.6% had <10% and 10-19% total body surface area burn respectively. Most of them (70.8%) had second degree burn. The mortality rate was 8.5%. 2 infants need reconstructive surgery of face. Out of 95 infants in follow up 7 (7.4%) developed contractures for which surgical intervention was done.

Conclusion: Burn injury is an important public health concern and is associated with high morbidity and mortality. The main cause of burn injury in infants is hot water. Safety measures must be taken while dealing with hot liquids and flame, especially in the presence of infants at home. Infantile burn injuries can be decreased and prevented by educating parents through seminars, posters and print media. In this aspect, electronic media can play an important role along with social welfare organizations and housing departments.

Biography

Syed Zafar Mehdi completed his MCPS and FCPS in Pediatric Medicine from college of Physicians and Surgeons Pakistan. He is an Associate Professor of Pediatrics in Baqai Medical University Karachi. During last 18 years in this profession, he has worked with children suffering from protein calorie malnutrition, infectious diseases and neonatology. He has played an important role in promotion and support of exclusive breast feeding for first six months on which he has published several papers and has given various presentations. He is also a consultant of Pediatrics at Patel Hospital Karachi. He is a member of burn plastic surgery team. His several papers have been published on infantile burn. He has raised the voice for prevention of Pediatric burn both at national and international level.

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