

# LAC+USC MEDICAL CENTER BURN COMPLEX – C5D/M

## **Department Purpose**

The Burn Center is a specialized 20-bed unit. It consists of 6 ICU beds, 14 ward beds, an Emergency and Evaluation area, and a Rehabilitative Medicine Department. The Complex serves as an important component of the continuum of care in the LAC+USC Medical Center. The Complex exists for the provision of burn care for the patient population of Los Angeles County Department of Health Services. Concentrated medical and nursing care is provided for those patients with minor, moderate and critical burn injuries that require diagnostic, therapeutic and surgical interventions. The unit follows the Department of Nursing philosophy as well as the community standards for the practice and care of burn injuries. Care is ongoing and encompasses varying states of recuperation from diagnosis to treatment and reconstruction.

## **Types and Ages of Patients Served**

The Burn Complex is designed to provide service to adult, adolescent, pediatric and geriatric patients. The diagnostic and therapeutic focus is on aggressive wound management and the prevention of infection ultimately resulting in the rehabilitation and promotion of optimal function once discharged. Major medical diagnoses include thermal/flame burns, chemical burn, electrical burns, inhalation injuries; necrotizing fasciitis/complex wound management (free-flaps), and Toxic Epidermal Necrolysis/Stevens Johnsons Syndrome.

## **Methods Used to Assess Patient Needs**

An interdisciplinary approach to patient care management is used to assist the patient in making an educated decision about their care. Nursing and burn house staff, under the direction of the burn service Medical Director, act collaboratively with PT/OT, Social Work, Dietary and Pharmacy. Additional collaboration exists with Pastoral Care, Home Health, Laboratory, Respiratory Therapy, Utilization Review, Financial Services, Child Life Services and the department of Radiology and Epidemiology.

## **Scope of Service and Complexity of Care**

The Burn Complex cares for patients in varying states from initial injury through surgical and reconstruction to rehabilitation and follow-up care. The Burn Complex educates patients and families on the management and care of both acute and chronic physical and psychological issues related to burn injuries as well as overall health promotion. The Burn Complex prides itself on offering a therapeutic and supportive environment to its patients and families. The Complex also exists to provide burn injury prevention education to the surrounding communities in the Medical Center's catchment area.

Providing education to Fire Departments and hospitals without specialized burn services regarding safe transport and initial care is also a goal of the Burn Center. The Complex also strives to maintain National Verification as a Center of Burn Care Excellence through the American Burn Association and the American College of Surgeons.

## **Quality Control Indicators**

- Pain Documentation
- Restraint Documentation
- Reduction/Prevention of Denied Patient Care days
- Patient Identification Practices

*Refreshed/Reviewed: March 2005; December 2012; January 2016; June 2020*

*Approved: August 2020*

*C5D/M – Burn Complex – Scope of Services*

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## **Performance Improvements Indicators**

- Reduction the Nurse call response time
- Meet standards for Pain Management/Documentation
- Reduce the occurrence of Peri-oral pressure injuries related to intubation devices
- Improvement of Patient Experience through Customer Service training
- Prevention of Catheter Associated Urinary Tract Infections (CAUTI)
- Prevention of Central Line Associated Bloodstream Infections (CLABSI)
- Prevention of Venous Thromboembolic Events (VTE)

## **Recognized Standards**

Care provided is consistent with applicable regulatory and professional standards inclusive of but not limited to California Board of Registered Nursing, The California Board of Licensed Vocational Nursing, The American Nurses Association, Joint Commission for the Accreditation of Hospital Organizations, Department of Health Services, American Association of Critical Care Nurses, American College of Surgeons, American Burn Association, Title 22 Regulations, and the FDA.

## **Availability of Necessary Staff**

The unit operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The nursing staff reports to a Nurse Manager (NM) who works collaboratively with the Burn Medical Director. The NM is responsible for providing sufficient quantities of qualified nursing staff to meet the acuity needs of the patients and the census of the unit. The Nurse Manager is responsible for the quality of nursing care provided and the performance of assigned staff. Staff on the unit has specific competency assessments for their professional level and/or job description. Registered Nurses, Licensed Vocational Nurses, and Nursing Attendants provide patient care. Clerical staff provides support.