

# Hot Beverages Scalds: Keep Hot Drinks Out of The Reach of Children

## Mechanism of Injury:

In most instances the child reaches up and pulls the hot beverage over themselves.

## Data:

In the six years from 1997 to 2002, 1633 children were treated for burns at the Royal Children's Hospital.

- 20-25 % of all burns were from hot beverages
- Average age: 18 months
- Male : Female = 2:1
- 80% were supervised by an adult
- Area of body most affected: Face, neck and chest
- 18% required skin grafting
- 2% required further surgery for chronic scarring

## Prevention Message:

- Caregivers should never leave a hot drink within the reach of children
- Supervision alone is not enough



## PREVENTION



**Always place a hot drink out of the reach of small children**

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