

There Will Be No Warning: Flammable Liquids and Fire Don't Mix

Mechanism of Injury:

Most commonly occur when adolescent males throw a flammable liquid (usually petrol) onto a fire.

Data:

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

- 5-11% of all burns were from flammable liquids
- Average age: 10 1/2 years
- Male : Female = 20:1
- 24% were supervised by an adult
- Area of body most affected: Face, neck, arms, legs and trunk
- 46% required skin grafting
- 14% required further surgery for chronic scarring

Prevention Message:

- Flammable liquids should always be stored behind lock and key
- Children should be educated concerning the danger

PREVENTION



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