

Oven Door Burns in Children

Mechanism of Injury:

Usually infants pulling themselves up and directly touching the outside of the hot oven door.

Data:

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

- 4% of all burns were from hot oven doors
- Average age: 10 months
- Male : Female = 1.5:1
- All had adult supervision
- Area of body most affected: Hands
- 3% required skin grafting

Prevention Message:

- Supervision alone is not enough
- Keep small children out of the kitchen with the use of a gate, or place them in a playpen
- The oven door should be closed as soon as food is transferred in or out
- The oven should not be used as a room-heating source
- Many ovens are touch-safe and reduce the chances of a burn
- Oven guards are commercially available



PREVENTION



A gate can be used to keep kids out of the kitchen

Royal Children's Hospital Burns Research Group.
Brisbane, Australia.

