

Burn depth assessment

All burn injuries which fall within the Burns Referral Criteria should be discussed with the local burn service.

CONTACT DETAILS

St Andrews Centre (Chelmsford)
Adults **0300 44 30475**
Children **0300 44 30405**

Chelsea & Westminster Hospital (London)
Adults **020 3315 2500**
Children **020 3315 3706**

The Royal London Hospital (London)
Adults and Children **020 3594 5693**

Queen Victoria Hospital (East Grinstead)
Adults **01342 414440**
Children **01342 414469**

Stoke Mandeville Hospital (Aylesbury)
Adults and Children **01296 315040**

John Radcliffe Hospital Oxford
Adult and Children **01865 234760**

SUPERFICIAL/ ERYTHEMA



- Involves epidermis only
- Red
- Brisk capillary refill
- Skin is dry and intact
- No blisters
- Painful
- Erythema not included in %TBSA
- Heals within 3-7 days with analgesia & application of non-perfumed moisturiser



PARTIAL THICKNESS



- Pale pink/red
- Brisk capillary refill
- Exudate present
- Intact or collapsed blisters may be present
- Painful
- Should heal within 14-21 days with non-adherent & absorbent dressings
- Refer to **Blister Management Guideline**
- Refer to **local Burn Service** if >3% (adults) & >1% (children)



DEEP DERMAL



- Dark pink/red or white
- Mottled, stained, cherry red
- Delayed or absent capillary refill
- Dull/variable sensation
- Surgical intervention may be required
- Circumferential burns need urgent discussion
- Refer to **local Burn Service**



FULL THICKNESS



- White, black, brown or yellow
- Dry and leathery
- Thrombosed vessels may be visible
- Eschar may be present
- No capillary refill
- No sensation
- Surgical intervention & long-term scar management required
- Circumferential burns need urgent discussion

