

## Burn assessment

### Peanut Ward

**Your child has had a burn and you have been referred to Peanut Ward.**

During your visit, this is what will happen:

- When you arrive we ask you to complete a patient identification sheet, so we can form a health record for your child.
- We will ask you to describe the accident and any first aid given.
- We will weigh and height measure your child so that if we need to give strong painkillers we can give the correct dose.
- We will complete our burns assessment paperwork and ask some similar questions to those asked at your referring hospital/ minor injuries unit (MIU)
- After this, we will remove dressings (bandages, plasters, clingfilm, etc.) put on by the hospital/MIU, and the burn will be cleaned or showered
- A nurse or doctor will assess the burn
- We will take photographs of the wound for your child's records.
- The burn will be redressed and further dressings and treatment planned and explained.
- If your child needs input from a physiotherapist or occupational therapist we will arrange it
- If you or your child is distressed about the injury or worried about any long term effects we can arrange for you to speak to our psychologist (counsellor).

### Pain during dressing changes

Burns dressings can be painful and we encourage you to give your child an appropriate dose of Paracetamol and a dose of Ibuprofen about an hour before your appointment.

Oral painkillers should be fully effective after 45 mins-1 hour. During this period please encourage your child to drink and eat if they feel they want to.

If your child needs stronger pain relief we can give Morphine syrup or Entonox<sup>®</sup> (gas and air).

We will also use things like distraction or relaxation techniques if we think they may help. If you would like to try some of these at home, there are various apps available to help.

### Follow up

Once your child's assessment and dressing is done, we will give you an advice leaflet about the burn injury and this includes our telephone number and arrange follow up care.

This may be an appointment for you to return for further dressings or may be to give you the necessary dressings for you to change at home.

If you are changing the dressings at home we will arrange for you to send photos to either our secure e-mail address or the secure section of our website.

Your child may need to see the Occupational Therapist or Physiotherapist regularly to ensure that the affected area has free movement, especially if a joint is involved and these appointments happen on Peanut Ward during your child's dressing changes.

## Other information

If you are on income support please let a nurse know so we can give you an attendance sheet and explain what assistance you may be able to get.

When your child's wound is dressed and you are ready to go home we will send a letter about your child's injury to your GP and give you a copy for your information.

We may contact, by letter or telephone, your health visitor, school nurse, social work team or community team, if you have them, so that they can offer you support at home if you need it.

## Further hospital information

Should you have any comments about any aspect of your visit we would like to hear from you. We are constantly seeking ways in which we can improve our service to you. Feedback sheets are available on Peanut Ward, please ask if you would like to give feedback or contact:

Julie Baker – Peanut Ward Matron  
[Julie.baker17@nhs.net](mailto:Julie.baker17@nhs.net)

**Refreshments** are available from either of the following:

### **The Hurricane coffee shop:**

Open Monday to Friday 10am-4pm, serving hot/cold drinks, sandwiches and snacks.

### **Lancaster Lounge:**

Vending machines serving hot and cold drinks, snacks and sandwiches.

**More general information can also be obtained from our website:** [www.qvh.nhs.uk](http://www.qvh.nhs.uk)

## Please contact us:

Please contact the ward at any time of the night or day if you are worried about your child or their wound. We are only a phone call away and are happy to answer any questions!

### **Peanut Ward**

**Direct line: 01342 414469**

**Peanut is located in the main hospital building, location 16.**