Standard of Care
Circumferential Burns

Objectives:
1. To identify areas of full thickness circumferential burns.
2. To promote adequate circulation.
3. To recognize early signs and symptoms of circulatory impairment.
4. Provide education to patient and or family regarding disease process, plan of care and procedures.

Process Standards:
1. Documentation will be present identifying area(s) of circumferential burn.
2. Baseline assessment of circulatory status in affected limb will be present to include documentation of pulse (tactile or Doppler), sensation, motor response, capillary refill, color, presence of deep aching pain.
3. Burned extremities will be elevated above the level of the heart.
4. Any change in baseline assessment of circulation and pain will be documented and reported to the MD immediately.
5. Equipment and materials for escharotomy will be readily available.
6. Should escharotomy be necessary, documentation and assessment of circulatory status will be ongoing. Dressings to escharotomy sites will be changed as ordered.

Outcome Standards:
1. Adequate circulation will be present in the affected limb.
2. Patient and or family will verbalize understanding of disease process, plan of care and procedures.

References: