

2005
BATON ROUGE
Parents
CHOICE AWARD

FAMILY
FAVORITE

The Doctor Is In

By Stephanie Kelleher, M. D.



Greg Gelpi, M.D.

First Aid for Pediatric Burns

With winter finally settling in here in South Louisiana, there are several burn hazards around to harm little unsuspecting, curious kids. Things such as a hot cup of coffee, tea or hot chocolate; a nice steaming bowl of soup and fireplaces or chimineas are common sources of burns in our children. 1st degree burns are minor - symptoms include redness, tenderness and soreness - like most sunburns. 2nd degree burns are like severe sunburns with blistering, pain and swelling and require first aid and medical attention as soon as possible. 3rd and 4th degree burns are severe injuries that require prompt medical attention. Prevention is the key to avoiding such injuries, but if a burn actually occurs, here are some tips on how to deal with the injury.

First thing is to cool the burn. For 1st or 2nd degree burns, cool the area with cool running water for a few minutes - this helps to stop the burning process, numbs the pain, and prevents or reduces swelling. Do not use ice on a burn - it can delay healing. For a 3rd degree burn, cool the burn with wet, sterile dressings until help arrives. Second thing to do is remove burned clothing that isn't stuck to the skin and if possible, elevate the injured area. Lastly, cover the burn once it has cooled with a dry bandage or clean cloth. Do not break any blisters - this could introduce bacteria into the wound. Also never put grease (including butter) on the burn. The grease holds in the heat, which may make the burn worse.

Call your pediatrician if your child suffers anything more than a minor burn. ALL electrical burns and any burn on the face, genitals, or over a joint worse than a 1st degree should receive medical attention right away.

We hope you have a safe and healthy New Year!!!

The Pediatric Clinic



Dawn Vick, M.D.



George J. Schwartzberg, M.D.



Stephanie Kelleher, M.D.

Hours: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Mon-Fri • Phones open at 7 a.m.
OFFICE HOURS BY APPOINTMENT • 888 Tara Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA 70806
(225) 926-4400