

Warm H₂O Immersion

Communication Plan

1. The Trauma service will initially manage all hypothermia patients (core temperatures < 89.6° F., 32° C.) Once the trauma team is activated on patients meeting the criteria as per policy # TM:04:06 (Adult Trauma Team Activation) and TM:13:17 (Pediatric Trauma Team Activation), the patient can be transferred to another service as appropriate.
2. The Trauma attending surgeon will determine whether the patient is stable for transport to the Hubbard Tank. The attending will stay with the patient until the patient is removed from the Hubbard Tank, activating the back-up Trauma attending, as necessary
3. The ED will notify the Burn Center charge RN as soon as possible regarding transfer to the Hubbard Tank for rewarming.
4. The patient will be transported to the Burn Center by the trauma team. The ED trauma nurse will give a verbal report to the Burn Center RN accepting the patient, complete the charting and return to the ED.
5. The patient will be admitted to the Burn Center on the Trauma service.

Nursing Roles

ED/Trauma RN

1. Stabilize the patient in conjunction with the trauma providers in the ED.
2. Transport the patient to the Burn Center for rewarming, utilizing the Hubbard Tank.
3. Give a verbal order to the Burn Center RN accepting the patient.
4. Complete charting.
5. Return to the ED.

ED Charge RN

1. Notify the Burn Center charge RN ASAP once the decision to rewarm using the Hubbard Tank is made.

Burn Center RN

1. Prepare the Hubbard Tank and obtain emergency equipment (crash cart outside room).
2. Receive verbal report from ED/Trauma RN.
3. Assume care of patient.
4. Transport to Burn Center room for admission.