**Physical injuries**

**Thermal injuries:**

Dupuytren’s classification of burns: the most important classification and used until now.

*Factors affecting the gravity of burns:*

Extent of burns: if it’s 30% or more is very dangerous and fatal.

Site of burn: burns of the head, neck, genitalia, and chest are more dangerous than burns of limbs.

Age: burns in children are serious because there is a large area compared to the weight, in elderly the burns are serious because of low immunity and diseases.

*Causes of death:*

Hematogenic shock: lacerated wounds can cause hematogenic shock because the release of histamine like substances.

Death after 7 days can happen by liver or kidney failure due to absorption of toxic substance (tissues or product of tissues)

***Heat diseases***

Heat cramps: happens by exercise, patient’s temperature is normal.

Heat collapse is treated by IV administration only. most severe heat disease IMP.

Heat hyperpyrexia:

*Factors predisposing to heat hyperpyrexia*

* Anticholinergic drugs (it stops secretions) e.g. atropine. The most important factor IMP.

**Electrical injuries:**

Factors affecting occurrence of electrical injuries:

Contact surface area is the most important factor. IMP

*Causes of death:*

Mechanical asphyxia: a severe contraction in the intercostal muscles causing paralysis.

*Complications:*

Aphasia= inability to speak.

*Treatment*:

no one should touch a person who caught an electrical current until they switch the current off. The person must be pulled away from the electricity source.

**Injuries due to ionizing radiation:**

children are highly affected because of their higher rate of growth.

*Units of measurement of radioactivity*: curie & becquerel

In pregnancy it is very important to differentiate between the effects on the fetus before and after 7 weeks of pregnancy.

**MCQs**

1.A man with heat collapse has:

A) Cyanosis

B) Slow pulse

C) Slow respiration

D) Subnormal temperature\*\*\*

2. Which of the following affect the shape of electric burn:

A) Type of current

B) Age of victim

C) Pathway of the current

D) Exposed body surface area\*\*\*

3. The mechanism of death from cold is:

A) Carboxy haemgolobin formation

B) Central nervous system depression

C) Red asphyxia

D) Respiratory enzyme inhibition \*\*\*\* (paralysis of cytochrome oxidase enz.)

E) Paralysis of circulation

4. Which of the following predispose in sun stroke:

A) Age

B) Sex

C) Physical health

D) Atropine\*\*\*

E) Morphine

5. The best treatment for heat cramps is:

A) IV fluid

B) Increase salt intake\*\*\*

C) Ice bags

6. Ionizing radiation cause:

A) Dehydration

B) Reticulo-cytosis

C) Thrombocytosis

D) Lymphocytopenia\*\*\*

7. Red scars from burns stay up to :

A) 21 days

B) 1 month

C) 2 months\*\*\*

D) 4 months

8. A person has heat cramps he will have :

A) Subnormal temperature

B) Normal temperature\*\*\*\*

C) Fever

D) Hyperpyrexia

big thanks to: Mona Alfaraidi

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