Content Description

Self-immolation is one of the most difficult burn injuries to treat. This presentation will emphasize the severity of a self-immolation injury. Historical and cultural differences will be discussed regarding motives for self-immolation, treatment priorities, and complications.

Learning Objectives
At the end of this session, the participant will be able to:

1. Describe persons at risk for self-immolation.
2. Discuss the differences between eastern and western world cultures in relation to self-immolation.
3. Construct a plan of care for a person with a self-immolation injury.

Summary of Key Point/Outline

I. Definition of self-immolation

II. Epidemiology
   a. Incidence
   b. Historical perspectives
   c. Political protest
   d. Western countries
   e. Eastern countries
      i. Dowry death
      ii. Bride burning
      iii. Sati

III. Types of Self Harm

IV. Predisposing factors of self-immolation

V. Consequences of self-immolation
   a. Priorities of care
i. Determining severity of injury
ii. Inhalation injury
iii. Use of accelerants
iv. Gasoline-effects on the body
v. Extensive burns
vi. Surgical intervention
vii. Nutritional aspects of care
viii. Complications

VI. Psychological Management
   a. Managing behavior
   b. Discharge disposition

VII. Prevention
   a. Warning signs of suicide
      i. Verbal
      ii. Behavioral
      iii. Environmental

VIII. Summary

References


Contact information:
Patricia S. Regojo, RN, MSN
Nurse Manager Burn Unit
Temple University Hospital
3401 N. Broad St.
Philadelphia, PA 19140
Office: (215) 707-1233
Email: regojops@tuhs.temple.edu