

# Performance review of Burn Unit at AaBET Hospital, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

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# Outline

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# Introduction

- Like in most of LMICs burn victims in Ethiopia as well suffer from significant lack of access to appropriately resourced burn care service.
- Less than a year ago Ethiopia with a population of nearly 100 million ,had only one burn unit for the whole country.
- This unit at Yekatit 12 Hospital Medical college is a 19 bed (12 adult and 7 pediatric) burn unit.

# Introduction Cont'd

- There were only 95 beds available in 11 public hospitals in Addis Ababa for trauma and emergency (May 2015).
- There is a steadily increasing number of cases of trauma and emergency due to multiple new developments that undergo in the country.
- The above mentioned facts and figures clearly indicate the need for establishing a hospital dedicated for emergency, trauma and burn care.

# Burn unit at AaBET

- The burn unit at Addis Ababa Burn Emergency and Trauma (AaBET) Hospital has opened its door to accept burn patients on September 2016.
- Months before its opening the proposed burn unit location was visited by expert group coordinated by Inter Burns and FMOH.
- During that time the assumption was to make the burn unit at AaBET a tertiary burn center of excellence and national model of comprehensive and effective quality burn care.

# AaBET Cont'd

- The three main objectives:-
  - Deliver excellent patient care,
  - Train and educate health care professionals working throughout the country and
  - Run research projects focused on improving all aspects of quality burn care and dissemination of the results

# AaBET Cont'd

- A 19 bed unit ( 7 pediatrics and 12 adult)
- 20 nurses ( specially trained on burn care)
- 3 plastic surgeons
- 2 GPS
- One dedicated OR

# Methods and Materials

- Retrospective observational performance review
- We review our various activity log books and registry documents .
- The data obtained from the above sources is analyzed manually.

# Results

- The burn unit at AaBET hospital has been in service for the past 9 months .
- Admission

Adult	pediatrics	Total
73	60	133
55%	45%	

# Results Cont'd

- Burn OPD

New cases	Follow up
22	37
37.2 %	62.7 %

# Results Cont'd

- The type of burn injury cases that were admitted

Scald	Flame	Electric
65	36	32
49%	27%	24%

# Results Cont'd

- Scald burn

Pediatrics	Adult
55	10 (all female)
85%	15%

# Results Cont'd

- Pediatric cases of scald burn

Male	Female
31	24
56.4%	43.6%

# Results Cont'd

## ➤ Flame burn

- Adult patients account for the 33 cases (91.6%) of flame burn victims admitted to the unit.
- Among the 33 cases of adult flame burn victims 31 cases were females (94%) and all the pediatric cases of flame burn were girls.

# Results Cont'd

## ➤ Electrical Burn

- The victims of electrical burn who were admitted to the unit were predominantly adult male patients (30 cases; 94%) and the remaining two cases were male pediatric patients.

# Results Cont'd

- Activities in the OR dedicated for the unit :-
  - 38 operations of STSG and
  - 30 operations of debridement under anesthesia
  - There was a 97% graft take rate with only one case of total graft failure that was treated by re-grafting.

# Results Cont'd

- Training and education
  - 40 nurses and 10 health officer were trained in the care of burn patients at the primary health service settings.
  - All the 20 permanent staff nurses of the burn unit have undergone a special training for the care of burn patients.

# Results Cont'd

- **Research projects** focused on improving all aspects of quality burn care:-
  - So far we there is no research project done or under process in the unit.

# Discussion

- The 133 patients that were admitted and treated at our burns unit have got better care since they were in the care of a specially trained, young and motivated burn unit nurses.
- Additionally starting from the first day there is a plastic and reconstructive surgeon in the unit to coordinate the overall activities of the unit by acting as a director of the unit.

# Discussion Cont'd

- There is no data available regarding the number of patients who undertake a physiotherapy and occupational therapy session for the rehabilitation of burn injury at the hospital.
- We have no data regarding the quality of life and integration to the society of the burn victims who were treated at our burn unit.

# Conclusion

- The performance of the burn unit at AaBET hospital should be assessed mainly in view of the three main objectives that were set by the expert group
- The unit is in the right track in order to fully meet the above mentioned objectives and to become a center of excellence in burn care for the country .

# Conclusion Cont'd

- This conclusion is drawn not only by basing on the existing data but also by taking into consideration of the efforts that are still going on to make the facility a better equipped unit for meeting its main objectives.

# Recommendation

- We recommend that all the good practices at the unit should continue with an increased quality and efficiency.
- We like to stress on the need for a well equipped and staffed physiotherapy, occupational therapy and pressure garment workshop in order to improve our care in terms of addressing the functionality and quality of life of our patients.
- We recommend on the initiation of research projects focused on improving the quality of care delivered to burn victims.

# Reference

- Interburns initial assessment report on burn care and prevention in Ethiopia, May 2015



Thank you!