

Northern Burn Care Network News

(incorporating North of England, North Wales and the Isle of Man)

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Towards excellence in burn care and aftercare - personal, comprehensive, effective, and safe

Welcome to the fifth edition of the NBCN Newsletter. This is a regular publication, to keep you informed of what the network is doing, and to share good practice and success stories from each of the constituent burn care services.

ALDER HEY "STRAIGHT AWAY" CAMPAIGN Prevention for Hair Straightener Burns

During Child Safety Week, The Children's Accident Prevention Trust (CAPT) supported Alder Hey's "Straight Away" Campaign, which was in line with CAPT's aim to reduce the number of children being burned by hair straightener's.

The campaign was launched on Wednesday 24th June 2009 in Alder Hey's Accident and Emergency Department. 192 people attended the event including children, parents, carer's and staff. Those attending the event were given a FREE heat protection pouch to be used for their hair straightener's so that they could be **put STRAIGHT AWAY after use!** Moya Sutton, Executive Nurse at Alder Hey Children's NHS Foundation Trust in Liverpool, said: "We are seeing more and more children with burns due to hair straightener injuries, particularly on hands and feet.

On average, at least 40 children a year are treated at Alder Hey for these type of burns and several have had to have skin grafts to repair these injuries. This is becoming a major area of concern for us which is why we launched our own campaign 'Straight Away', to support CAPT's campaign and warn parents about the dangers.

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Straighteners are a popular hair styling tool and can reach temperatures of over 220°C. They remain hot enough to cause burns for up to eight minutes after they have been switched off.

The majority of injuries in children occur when they touch the still-hot metal or ceramic plates on the straightener arms, which remain open. The pouches are made from heavy duty felt. Such covers are not provided by most manufacturers on purchase of straighteners.

Alder Hey's campaign is to be rolled out through Liverpool Children's Centres over the Summer, to raise public awareness.



Photo Caption: Executive Nurse Moya Sutton pictured with Angela Jones, Alder Hey Chair with attendees at the event.



SUPPORTING THE TRANSITION TO ADULT SERVICES
Manchester Young Adult Burn Camp
Shortlisted for Health Service Journal Award 2009

The camp was the first burns programme in the UK for this age group, and **the team** (right) have just found out that they have been **short-listed for a prestigious Health Service Journal award**. The team are working with their patient group to prepare for the next stage in the short listing process and will find out if they have won at the end of November.



Transition from child to adult services is known to be a challenging time. The Manchester Burns Services sought to review their existing pathway for the transition of patients from children's to adults services by holding a 'transition event', which took place in October 2007.

At this event patients, their families/carers and staff from both hospital Trusts were invited to an evening event whereby they expressed their thoughts and ideas about the existing service and how it might be improved. This consultation event confirmed that the existing Burns Camp programmes run by Central Manchester University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust had been of great support to families by helping to heal the physical and mental scars of children who have suffered serious burn injuries for more than a decade. The existing programmes support children/young people up to the age of 16 years. The feedback from the transition event endorsed the continuation of such programmes into young adulthood.

University Hospitals of South Manchester NHS Foundation Trust led in this development with Central Manchester University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service being partners.

The Young Adult Burns Camp ran for the first time in May 2008. It aims to provide young adults aged 16-25 years with the opportunity to take part in **a residential activity programme designed to challenge, build confidence and develop a sense of achievement and confidence** around appearance related issues.



The camp leaders are staff from both the child and adult burns services to support the transition that many of the young adults make. Given the success of the initial camp we have been successful in securing funds for the camp programme to run on an annual basis. A second camp ran in May 2009 and the group are already bringing together the 2010 programme.



The camp programme has been formally evaluated and illustrated that it delivers its objectives, which are illustrated by the quote below from the young adults and staff who attended the camp.

“I felt like I could be me instead of somebody else...the barriers come down...barriers go up with people who maybe don't understand ..it's almost like a protection that you protect yourself...whereas with the group we went away with you don't need it”

Many people were responsible for delivering a successful programme, their drive and determination has made this dream a reality, we would like to take this opportunity to thank them.

Should you want to know more please contact:

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BURN CAMP Best Practice Day UPDATE

The team involved in running burn camps in Manchester are planning to host a **Burn Camp Best Practice Day** on **Tuesday, 20th October 2009** in order to bring interested parties together to share ideas and experiences around developing and evaluating burn camp programmes. The event will take place all day (10-4) at no cost to attendees, and will be held at the Central Manchester Hospitals Site.

Should you be interested in attending or finding out more please contact Sarah or Julie.

This event was **originally scheduled for 24th September**, which has had to be **postponed**.

DELIVERING THE BURNS LINK FRAMEWORK

The Burns Link Nurse Framework concept was proposed by Jacky Edwards, Lead Nurse, NBCN, with the aim of assisting the Burns services in establishing and maintaining best practice in all relevant areas. The Northern Burn Care Network's Strategy Board agreed in December 2008 that the framework should be rolled out across the Network.

Collectively the Burns link nurse Framework will hopefully **enhance the effectiveness of all aspects of burn care** in line with local and national standards. Initially the Framework is going to run as a pilot for 12 months and will be targeting minor burns through A&E. Burns Link Nurses for both adults and paediatrics (where appropriate) are being identified and the Burns Link Nurse Co-coordinators from each of the services are developing a generic teaching package that the Burns Link Nurses in A&E can cascade to other health professionals within their department. It is hoped that this will then enable continual learning and development in the knowledge and management of people with minor burn injuries. In addition resource folders are being developed and will be made available on the Northern Burn Care Network's website, so staff in A&E will have dedicated points of contact and support.

It is hoped that this will improve the referral patterns for this group of patients, facilitate easier feedback to A&E's and also be a forum for audit collection and collaboration in developing protocols and guidelines.

This is being taken forward by all five burns services in the North West and is being led by:

Whiston (Adults): Karen Edwards
Alder Hey (Children): Louise Campbell
Central Manchester (Children): Kevin Ryan
Preston (Adults): Adele Hull
South Manchester (Adults): Barry Coe

The plan is to launch this with a study day on Minor Burn Management on 17th November and then follow this up with Burns Link Nurse Training days early in the New Year. It is hoped that if this is proven to be successful that it could be rolled out to Minor Injury Units, Walk in Centres etc. across the network where not already in place.

Further information on this initiative can be accessed through Jacky Edwards (jacky.edwards@uhsm.nhs.uk)

North West OSG: Dates of Future meetings

Thursday 15th October 2009 10am-4pm- Haydock Racecourse. To find out more contact: Suzanne.denley@cmft.nhs.uk

NORTH EAST and CUMBRIA BURNS CENTRE Support Groups Update

The Burns Outreach Team continues to develop the Support Group Network for Burn patients in our area.

Paediatrics - Alison McKenzie Lead Nurse Burns Outreach for children continues to arrange and develop programmes for the Children in the Grafters club.

The Grafters Club is a charitable fund administered by the Newcastle Healthcare Charity (Reg. 502473). Through the help of parents, families, friends, companies and fundraising we are able to support the clubs events and activities.

'The Telegraft' is the clubs newsletter produced biannually which includes stories from the children, puzzles and future events.

Recent events include our family day out where over 100 people descended on Diggerland. The weather was very kind to us and everyone had a great day. The annual Christmas party including games and a disco is also a very popular event.



In May the club took a group of children on a three day residential weekend burn camp in deepest and darkest Northumberland for activities such as climbing, canoeing, archery, zip wire and much more. The team work and peer support amongst the children was inspirational.

Our latest venture is a parents social evenings for them to meet others and share their experiences. We also discuss the club and plan future events including joining the National Jamboree in October and World Jamboree in England in 2010.

Louise Johnson - Outreach Physio-therapist continues to work with colleagues from the Manchester and Wakefield Burn Camps on the family therapy weekends. This has been supported by the Children's Fire and Burn Trust with help from the Fire Fighters Charity and the next weekend is planned for November. Swimming is the activity that all the children love where as the warm-up session in the gym needs a bit more encouragement. The families all benefit from being in an environment where they can relax and chat with other families who have had a similar experience.

Sue Nicolson - Lead Nurse Burns Outreach Adults is continuing to develop Burn Buddies. This is a constantly growing group of volunteers who are offering to support new patients who may want to speak to somebody who has previously had a burn injury. The person Buddies with a patient with support from the Burns Outreach Team on the first occasion and if appropriate contact details are exchanged. The Outreach team will follow up with a phone call to both the Buddy and the new patient to help evaluate the experience and ensure that both are happy.

We are planning to arrange an autumn gathering of our Buddies and friends in Newcastle at the end of October. Hopefully this will be an informal lunch meeting at a Newcastle hotel for everyone including staff to get together and catch up.

SERVICE CONFIGURATION UPDATE

An update on progress with the Service Configuration will be presented to the NBCN Strategy Board on 14th Sept and will therefore be provided in the October issue of the NBCN Newsletter.

WEBSITE UPDATE

The Network team is progressing the development of the Network Website and are currently in the process of entering the content in a non-live environment. Once there is sufficient content we will share this with Strategy Board members and other groups for comments and feedback before going live in October 2009.

Below is an early mock-up of the Home page. If you have any comments or suggestions for inclusion on the website please send them to Philippa Crane by email: Philippa.crane@shsc.nhs.uk.



Dates for your Diaries

14th September

Lead Clinicians Meeting, Wakefield
Strategy Board Meeting, Wakefield

21st September

Network Lead Nurse Meeting, Wakefield

23rd September

BBA Nurses Forum Meeting

9th October

Network Link Nurse Meeting

10th October

Burn Camp Best Practice Day

17th November

Link Nurse Framework

