Emergency Management of Severe Burns (EMSB) 
Course Prospectus
Course Outline

The patient with burns presents a difficult challenge to most health care personnel. Apart from the serious nature of the injury, there is the patient’s discomfort, the distress of the patient and his or her relatives, the loss of income and the compromise of their employment future, and their uncertainty about the future. In addition to these factors, the well known surgical maxim that the trauma patient who is seen, assessed and treated early by skilled personnel heals more quickly than the patient whose treatment is delayed, is as true for the burn victim as it is for any other trauma patient.

This course is based on the principle that timely emergency assessment, resuscitation and transfer provide the best chance of recovery in our patients with burns. Ultimately, the patient that we will be called upon to manage with burns, and perhaps with associated severe injuries, should benefit from this course.

The aim of this course is to provide sufficient factual information regarding the presentation, diagnosis and initial management of the patient with severe burns, to enable medical and nursing practitioners to deal competently with this urgent and often life threatening problem.

The course follows the trauma management protocols as taught by the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons in their Emergency Management of Severe Trauma course (EMST). The course was developed by the Australian and New Zealand Burn Association (ANZBA) and is offered by the South African Burns Society under license to ANZBA. The course is accredited with the Health Professions Council of South Africa and is rated at 6 CPD points.

The course is appropriate for medical and nursing practitioners working anywhere in the field of burn care, from members of the burns unit, to medical and nursing staff in isolated areas. Apart from teaching the material contained, the course seeks to emphasise the benefits of all emergency care givers having knowledge of the same protocols of emergency burn care, as this facilitates primary care and appropriate referral; the ultimate beneficiary of this approach being our patient with burns. The information is taught in five separate and complimentary sections:

1. Course Manual

This manual contains the complete syllabus of the course and is sent to all students before each course. Students are expected to read the manual before
attending the course, and a study guide is provided to assist in the recognition of the most important aspects of the course.

2. **Formal Lectures**

These take place at the beginning of the course. They will outline the course proper, and will reinforce your reading of the manual. They are not a substitute for the manual, and will vary to include the clinical experience of the lecturers.

3. **Skill Stations**

These will teach important practical aspects of the course.

4. **Interactive Discussion Groups**

This section teaches special areas of burn management in an interactive small group environment to maximise the opportunities for students to discuss these topics, and to use their own clinical experience, at their own level, to explore these topics.

5. **Simulated Burn Cases**

In this section, volunteers who have been moulaged to simulate clinical cases of burns will be used to give you some practical experience of management of the severe burn. This section will tie the course together, and make it clinically relevant.

6. **Examination and Clinical Test**

At the end of the course, you will be asked to take a multiple choice exam paper, as well as a clinical case test, (using a moulaged simulated burn case), to test your level of knowledge and the effectiveness of our teaching.
Course Programme

*Note: The topics and times listed below are indicative and may vary slightly from course to course.*

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<tr>
<th>Part One</th>
<th>Lectures</th>
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<td>7.30am - 8.00am</td>
<td>Registration</td>
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<td>8.00am - 8.10am</td>
<td>Welcome and Introduction</td>
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<td>8.10am - 8.30am</td>
<td>Emergency Examination and Treatment</td>
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<td>8.30am - 8.45am</td>
<td>Local and General Response to Burn Injury</td>
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<td>8.45am - 9.00am</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<td>9.00am - 9.15am</td>
<td>Inhalation Injury and Airway Management</td>
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<td>9.15am - 9.30am</td>
<td>Burn Wound Assessment</td>
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<td>9.30am - 9.45am</td>
<td>Shock and Fluids</td>
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<td>10.00am - 10.15am</td>
<td>Burn Wound Management</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.15am - 10.25am</td>
<td>Review</td>
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<td>10.30am - 11.00am</td>
<td>Morning Tea</td>
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Part Two
11.00am - 12.30pm

Skill Stations

Station 1
Burn Area and Fluid Requirements

Station 2
Documentation and Transfer

Station 3
Escharotomy

Station 4
Burn Wound Assessment

Station 5
Airway Management

12.30pm - 1.15pm

Lunch

Part Three
Groups
1.15pm - 2.45pm

Interactive Discussion

(20 minutes each)

1. Paediatric

2. Chemical

3. Electrical

4. Multi-trauma

Part Four
and Simulations

3.00pm - 4.00pm

Multiple Choice Exam

Group A Exam

Group B Simulations

4.00pm - 4.15pm

Break

4.15pm - 5.15pm

Group B Exam

Group A Simulations

5.15pm - 5.30pm

Summation