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943

**For Clinicians** 

# **BURN SAFETY**

#### Georgia Chapter

American Academy of Pediatrics



### Why We CARE

of burns in **children under age 5** result from scalding with **hot liquids, tap water, or steam**.

**Emergency Department visits** for burns occurred **in Georgia** in 2021.

children **in Georgia** under age 18 were **hospitalized** with burn injuries in 2021.

## How to PLAY IT SAFE

Talk with parents and caregivers about reducing burn risk at home. Some conversation starters:

"Do you realize that one of the **most important** words you can teach your child is the word "hot"?

"Have you considered setting your water heater to 120°F (48°C) or lower? Or placing anti-scald devices on faucets and shower heads?



Give them the Toolkit sheet for Parents and Caregivers—and point out the sections on How to Play It Safe and First Aid for burns.





Children under age 4 **do not yet have the mental capacity** to know to **avoid hot liquids**.

#### **Burn Classification**

**Superficial (Primary):** Skin is red, does not blister, painful. Involves only the epidermis.

**Partial thickness (Secondary):** Skin is red, blisters, and is painful and swollen. Involves the epidermis and part of the dermal layers.

Full thickness (Tertiary): Skin appears white, charred, and is painless. Burn is through entire epidermal and dermal layers.

**Unsure whether a burn requires advanced care?** Consult a burn center such as:

Joseph M. Still Burn Center, 404-732-7060

Walter L. Ingram Burn Center, 404-616-1000



Tell Caregivers to **SEEK MEDICAL ATTENTION** if a burn is blistering, swollen, and larger than the child's hand or if the burn is on the hand, foot, face, or genitals, or over a joint. **Call 911 for electrical burns.** 

#### PLAY IT SAFE

with poison prevention, safe sleep, firearms, teen driving, and more in the **new Georgia** AAP Toolkit—*coming soon*.

