

ANZBA 2015 Abstract 1

'Keeping it real' – what the outcomes literature means for your patient.
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The goal of every burns practitioner is to offer his or her patient the best recovery possible. We want to know who will do well and we are particularly concerned about the patients who may not do well. We want to know how we can deliver care and services to those at risk of poorer outcomes, to turn their fortunes around. As mortality rates decline and even extensive burns become survivable, outcomes are now reported in the literature in other terms. How outcomes are defined guides how they are measured. Quality of Life is a multifactorial concept that has been used to capture patient reported outcomes following burn injury. Identifying determinants and barriers to acceptable and optimal burns outcomes is central to developing targeted interventions, programs and models of care from all perspectives, whether it be that of the burns survivor, their family, the health service provider or society in general. This paper will present a systematic review of predictors of poor Quality of Life outcomes in adult burn survivors. The goals of the review were to present the various definitions and measures of outcomes and to identify evidence-based domains associated with poor Quality of Life. These will be presented in terms of suggested screening measures for early identification and management of survivors considered to be at risk of poorer outcomes. In conclusion, a rationale and recommendations for future research will be presented.