

# What happens to the children of NSW following a burn injury?

Nadin Azzam<sup>1</sup>, Ju-Lee Oei<sup>2</sup>, Barbara Bajuk<sup>3</sup>, Lisa Hilder<sup>4</sup>, Abdel-Latif Mohamed<sup>5</sup>, Ian M.R. Wright,<sup>6</sup>  
Andrew J. A. Holland<sup>7</sup>

1 [University of New South Wales, High St Kensington, NSW 2052, n.azzam@unsw.student.edu.au]

2 [Royal Hospital for Women, Barker Street Randwick, NSW, 2031, j.oei@unsw.edu.au]

3 [Pregnancy and Newborn Services Network, PO Box 157 Westmead, NSW, 2145, barbara.bajuk@psn.health.nsw.gov.au]

4 [University of New South Wales NPESU, Avoca Street, Randwick, NSW 2031, l.hilder@unsw.edu.au]

5 [Centenary Hospital for Women and Children, Yamba Drive, Garran, ACT, 2605 abdel-latif.mohamed@anu.edu.au]

6 [Illawarra Health and Medical Research Institute, University of Wollongong, Wollongong, NSW, 2522. iwright@uow.edu.au]

7 [Children's Hospital at Westmead, Locked Bag 4001, Westmead, NSW, 2145, andrew.holland@health.nsw.gov.au]

## Introduction:

Children with burns may be left with significant long-term physical, functional and psychosocial impacts. Though mortality and morbidity from burns in developed countries has substantially improved, it is estimated that approximately 0.5% of the paediatric population experience a burn significant enough to affect their daily function. One of the major challenges of childhood is school achievement. There is little information on the relationship between burns and how a child subsequently performs at school. This information could be critical for improving outcomes measures to optimise care for all children with burns.

## Aim:

The aim of this research project is to investigate the educational outcomes of children in NSW after a burn injury and to compare the subsequent hospitalisations of paediatric burns patients compared to those who have not had a burn injury.

## Methods:

A linkage analysis will be performed on all children hospitalized with burns in NSW between 2000-2011. Routine administrative datasets will be utilized to produce information on:

1. Perinatal outcomes (Perinatal Data Collection, PDC, and Neonatal Intensive Care Unit Study Data Collection (NICUS))
2. Hospitalizations (the Admitted Patient Data Collection, APDC – this will be used to identify children with burns).
3. Academic achievement (National Assessment Plan for Literacy and Numerary (NAPLAN))

## Expected results/Hypotheses:

1. Children who require hospitalization for burns have more subsequent hospitalizations than children without burns
2. The academic outcomes of these children will be compromised in relation to the number and severity of hospitalizations required after the index burn.

### **Key Words**

Paediatric, burn injuries, educational outcomes, long-term outcomes.

### **Nominated Stream for Oral Presentations**

- Medical**
- Nursing
- Allied Health
- Scientific

### **Nominated Stream for Poster Presentations**

- Care
- Prevention
- Research**

### **General instructions for preparing your abstract:**

- Save this file to your desktop
- Please only capitalise the first word and pronouns in your abstract title
- Make sure you include all the authors and their organisation details in the abstract
- Highlight the presenting author by make his/her name bold
- Your abstract will appear on the web site and in the program book exactly as submitted