

Correlative I: Clinical Sciences: Critical Care

1 **The Battle of the Titans: Comparing Resuscitation Between 5 Centers Using the Burn Navigator**

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Introduction: The goal of burn resuscitation is to provide the least amount of fluid necessary to maintain end-organ perfusion and prevent burn shock. The objective of this analysis was to examine how the Burn Navigator (BN), a clinical decision support tool in burn resuscitation, was utilized across 5 major burn centers in the United States.

Methods: A non-interventional, observational trial of 300 adult patients with embedded prospective and retrospective components was undertaken to examine the effectiveness of the BN in burn resuscitation. 5 ABA-verified burn centers enrolled patients. Data examining patient demographics, burn characteristics, fluid volumes, and resuscitation-related complications were examined. Statistical analysis compared the 5 sites in terms of these variables.

Results: A total of 285 patients were eligible for analysis. There was no difference among the centers in terms of average age (45.5 + 16.8 years), BMI (29.2 + 6.9), ISS (21.2 + 12.8), or median TBSA (34 [25.8, 47]). Primary crystalloid infusion volumes at 24 hours differed significantly when measured in ml/kg/TBSA (median 3.7 [2.9, 8.8], range 1.3 to 12.3). Similarly, total fluids, which includes colloid adjuncts, drip medications and enteral fluids, differed between groups when measured in both ml/kg (median 149.8 [106.5, 224.1], range 38.4 to 536.2) and ml/kg/TBSA (4.2 [3.3, 5.5], 1.7 to 15.3) at 24 hours. Post-hoc adjustment for pairwise comparisons resulted in a loss of significance between most of the sites. There was a total of 156 resuscitation-related complications reported across the 5 sites with an average incidence of 44.4 % incidence.

Conclusions: The Burn Navigator appeared to standardize fluid resuscitations across 5 major US burn centers. With primary fluid volumes near the Parkland formula, the device can be utilized effectively in burn centers, and further study should exam the utility of this device in facilities that do not commonly treat burn injuries, as well as the battlefield.

2 **Examination of Burn Resuscitation Complications from the Burn Navigator Observational Trial**

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Introduction: Burn care continues to focus on providing enough fluid resuscitation to perfuse end organs with the least amount of fluid necessary in order to prevent complications related to excess fluid. In this observational trial of 5 ABA-verified burn centers that utilized the Burn Navigator (BN), a clinical decision support tool, we sought to examine resuscitation-related complications that occurred in the first 48 hours after burn injury. Since minimal literature exists regarding the incidence of resuscitation-related complications in the acute phase after burn injury, we aimed to present our data for future comparison.

Methods: An observational study of adult patients undergoing burn resuscitation utilizing the BN was conducted. Data were gathered hourly for the first 48 hours for patients on fluid infusion rates, laboratory data, critical care elements to include ventilator settings and clinically relevant outcomes. Morbidities were classified based on each burn center's definition as related to over or under-resuscitation and variables associated with these outcomes were extracted from the data set.

Results: Three hundred patients were enrolled into the study, and 156 resuscitation-related complications were documented in 92 patients in the first 48 hours after admission. Compartment syndromes (abdominal, extremity, ocular) accounted for 62 (40%) of the complications. ARDS occurred in 9 patients. ARDS patients were the most severely injured, reflected by highest Baux score. None of the ARDS patients had an inhalation injury. The under-resuscitation morbidities of shock and acute kidney injury accounted for 81 (52%) of the complications. Patients experiencing shock received greater than the Parkland formula in the first 24 hours after injury. Most patients with AKI continued to make adequate urine during their resuscitation period, with 59% making an average of >30 ml/hr over the first 24 hours. Nearly half of patients with AKI were placed on renal replacement therapy in the first 48 hours. Seventeen patients (18.5%) experienced both a compartment syndrome and either AKI or shock.

Conclusions: This large observational study demonstrates variables associated with different complications across 5 major burn centers and shows that complications associated with over- and under-resuscitation can occur within the same patient during resuscitation after burn injury. Additional comparative studies are needed to better understand the cause of these complications, to determine the incidence of these complications in a larger population and criteria used to define each complication.