Electrical Burns

An electrical burn can cause damage both to the skin and to the deeper tissues. If an electrical burn is minor and only affects the skin, it can be treated like other burns. If deeper tissues (muscles, nerves, blood vessels) are injured, hospital care may be needed. Electrical burns may go deep into the body, but signs of a burn on the skin may be minimal. These deeper burns may affect the heart and other organs.

You should keep the burn area clean and dry. Use burn dressings, creams, and ointments only as directed by your caregiver. Dressings may be changed once or twice each day or as directed. Rest the burn area and keep it elevated to reduce swelling and pain. Pain medicine may be needed.

SEEK IMMEDIATE MEDICAL CARE IF:

- You develop fever, increased swelling or pain, redness, or pus drainage.

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