PURPOSE: To ensure the appropriate destination for Los Angeles County patients who sustain burn injuries.

POLICY:

I. Paramedics should make base contact whenever any patient sustaining burn injuries who meets criteria for Base Contact in Ref. No. 1200, Treatment Protocols, et al.

II. The base hospital should initiate appropriate orders as outlined in the Los Angeles County Treatment Protocols.

III. Determine the destination of burn-injured patients as follows:

A. Major / Critical Burn (if a recognized Burn Center, e.g., LAC+USC Medical Center, Torrance Memorial Medical Center, West Hills Hospital, is more accessible than the Trauma Center, patient should be transported to recognized Burn Center:
   1. Patients 15 years of age or older with 2nd (partial thickness) and 3rd (full thickness) degree burns involving equal to or greater than 20% Total Body Surface Area (TBSA)
   2. Patients ≤ 14 years of age with 2nd (partial thickness) and 3rd (full thickness) degree burns involving equal to or greater than 10% TBSA

B. Patients who meet other trauma or PMC criteria and/or guidelines should be transported to the appropriate trauma center or PMC.

C. Patients who do not meet criteria in Sections A or B above should be transported to the closest, most accessible medical receiving facility appropriate for their age.

IV. The receiving hospital should:

A. Provide appropriate stabilization of the patient

B. Arrange, in conjunction with the Medical Alert Center (MAC), for transfer to an appropriate burn facility if necessary. Provide MAC with the following information:
   1. Status of airway control
   2. Percentage, degree, and location of the burns
3. Type of burn (electrical, thermal, chemical, radiation)

4. Level of care the patient requires (ICU, med/surg)

5. Circulatory status (vital signs and perfusion of burned extremity if applicable)

6. Level of consciousness

7. Other injuries

8. Past medical history, pre-existing major systemic disease and current medications

9. Treatment(s) already rendered and in progress

CROSS REFERENCES:

Prehospital Care Manual:
Ref. No. 502, Patient Destination
Ref. No. 506, Trauma Triage
Ref. No. 510, Pediatric Patient Destination