

**ORIGINAL PAPER**

**Etiology of Burn Injuries Among 0-6 Aged Children in One University  
Hospital Burn Unit, Bursa, Turkey**

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**Abstract**

**Background;** Children whose verbal communications are not fully developed are the ones at risk for burn injuries. Causes of burn injuries vary among different age groups and scald injuries are the common cause of burn injuries among children. The majority of burns result from contact with thermal agents such as flame, hot surfaces, or hot liquids.

**Aim:** The aim of this study was to determine etiologic factors of the burn injured children

**Methods:** Data were collected for burn injured children treated in Uludag University Medical Hospital Burn Unit between January 2001 – December 2008. Patients' demographic variables, etiology of burn injury, TBSA (total body surface area), degree of the burn injury, duration of hospitalization was detected from medical records of the hospitalized patients.

**Results:** The mean age of the children was  $2.5 \pm 1.5$  (median=2). Although 4.6 % of burned patients were under one year of age, most of the children (67.8%) were between 1-3 years. All of the patients were burned as a result of accident and house environment was the place where the burn incident occurred. Burn injuries occurred mostly during summer (29.9%) and spring (28.7%). Scald injuries (75.3%) were mostly seen burn injury types all among other burn injuries.

**Conclusions:** Lack of supervision and observation are usually the most common causes of burn injuries in children. Statistical differences were found among age groups according to their burn etiology ( $p < 0.05$ ). An effect of TBSA on patient survival was statistically significant ( $p < 0.000$ ) and also statistically significant results were seen among age groups according to their TBSA's ( $p < 0.005$ ).

**Key Words:** Burn Injuries, Etiology, Children