



### **Issue: Burns Gel Dressings (2)**

*Raised by:* Vivienne Latham (Nurse Coordinator, Top End Remote Health)

*Background:* Currently RHB endorses use of a Hydrogel product in remote clinics for use when water can not be accessed for first aid. See [Best Practice Communiqué 05-18](#).

It has been suggested that water-gel products are more appropriate dressings for burn injuries.

*Discussion:* Review of literature and product information has revealed negligible differences in either products' first aid effects.

Royal Adelaide Burns unit are using a Hydrogel product (Burnaid) for acute burn injuries and recommend its use. The Royal Adelaide is the referral burns units for Northern Territory health services. It is preferable to keep consistency of treatment with their recommendations.

Hydrogel burns products are used by many mainstream services in Australia as a first aid product of choice for thermal injuries. There seems little evidence to support the change to a water based burn product.

*Consultation:* Burns Nurse, RDH; Wound Care Nurses, RDH  
Director of the Burns Unit, Royal Adelaide Hospital

*References:* Product information.

*Outcome:* Remote Health supports the continued use of Hydrogel burn products for first aid of burns, where water availability is limited.