



Japan Council for Quality Health Care

Project to Collect Medical Near-Miss/
Adverse Event Information

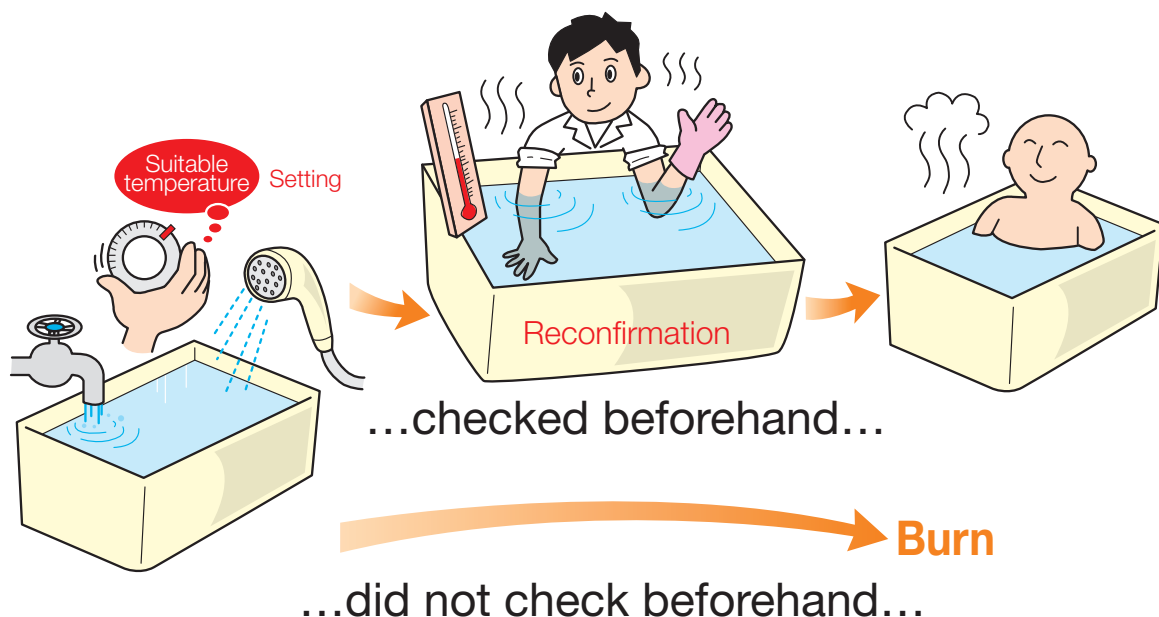
Medical Safety Information

No. 5, April 2007

Burn during assisted bathing

Fifteen cases of burn resulting from "nursing care" were reported. (information collection period, from October 1, 2004 to December 31, 2006; the information is partly included in "Medical Adverse Event Information to Be Shared" in the 5th Quarterly Report)

Among the reported cases, 2 cases of burn during bathing assistance occurred due to not checking the hot water temperature beforehand.



◆ Both cases involved patients who were not able to communicate sufficiently due to diseases.

Burn during assisted bathing

Case

The nurse prepared water set at a higher temperature than normal for an elevating bath (a lift bath with a patient in a supine position), and assisted the patient into the bath before checking the temperature. When the nurse put her hand in the bath water, it was too hot to bath. She immediately assisted the patient out of the bath. At that time, excoriation was observed on the patient's skin. The patient was, thereafter, diagnosed with dermal burn as large as 25% of the body surface by a dermatologist.

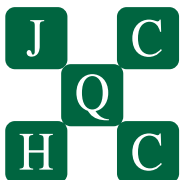
Preventive measures taken at the medical institution in which the event occurred.

Check the water temperature with one's bare hand or the inside of the upper arm, right before assisting the patient into the bath.

* As part of the Project to Collect Medical Near-Miss/Adverse Event Information (a Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare grant project), this medical safety information was prepared based on the cases collected in the Project as well as on opinions of "Comprehensive Evaluation Panel" to prevent occurrence and recurrence of medical adverse events. See quarterly reports and annual reports posted on the Japan Council for Quality Health Care website for details of the Project. <http://www.med-safe.jp/>

* Accuracy of information was ensured at the time of preparation but can not be guaranteed in the future.

* This information is neither for limiting the discretion of healthcare providers nor for imposing certain obligations or responsibilities on them.



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