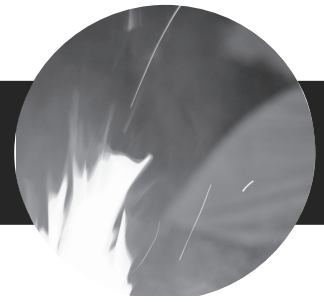


6 – BURNS, COOKING

ARGENTINA



THE STORY:

A pair of climbers in camp at 16,000' (4,900m) in the Andes were priming their gas stove when a fitting came loose on the fuel line and caused the stove to explode, spraying fuel over the climbers and their equipment. The tent quickly ignited and collapsed as the two climbers scrambled to escape the melting plastic. The flaming tent burned itself out rapidly and the climbers received burns of very short duration. The Pt; a 35 y/o male; who was working with the stove when it exploded complained of pain

on his face. The Pt denied any allergies, was taking acetazolamide for altitude adaptation, and was well hydrated and fueled. On exam at 1430, the Pt had already developed some redness of the forehead, nose, cheeks, chin, and on the upper neck. The nares were singed as were the hairs of his mustache. The lips and the roof of the mouth appeared to be involved as well. Vitals @ 1430hrs. were: Pulse: 84, Resp.: 20 without distress, Skin: normal, Pt was alert.

Put the appropriate information from the story above into the correct spaces provided in the SOAP note. Develop an Assessment for 1430hrs. with Anticipated Problems and an appropriate Treatment Plan. What is your most significant anticipated concern?

That night the Pt had developed some clear fluid-filled blisters on the roof of his mouth, lips, cheeks, and nose. The Pt complained of discomfort and some difficulty swallowing as well as hoarseness in his voice. The pair of climbers moved into an

emergency tent they had planned to use for their high camp and the Pt stated that he felt ok and wanted to continue the climb as planned. Vitals were: Pulse: 80, Resp.: 18, Breath Sounds: clear in all fields, Skin: normal, Pt was alert.

Put the appropriate information from the story above into the correct spaces provided. Develop an Assessment for 2100hrs. with Anticipated Problems and a Treatment Plan.

QUESTIONS

1. The weather and location of these climbers made descending a difficult proposition. Given the general impression above, how might you plan for managing the patient in this remote location?
2. This story highlights the concept of *ideal vs. real* when it comes to treatment and evacuation. How many different evacuation options did you come up with?
3. If your assessment revealed wheezing, would you have picked a different option?

