WAR RELATED BURNS: EVALUATION OF SYRIAN WAR REFUGEES TREATED IN A BURN CENTER IN TURKEY (P188)

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Introduction: About 4 years has passed from the beginning of civil war in Syria. In this war, it is estimated that about two hundred thousand people lost their lives. During the war, six million refugees have migrated to neighboring countries. About 2 million of these refugees were accepted by Turkey. Turkey is the country that has accepted the most refugees. Among these refugees, there were also burn patients. Although Istanbul is about 1200 km away from the Syrian border, because our center is the largest burn center in our country, we have accepted Syrian burn patients. The aim of this study to share the outcomes of the Syrian war refugees, who admitted to our burn center.

Methods: Syrian patients who treated our burn center between March 2011-March 2015 were analyzed retrospectively.

Results: During these 4 years, total 43 Syrian war admitted to our burn center. First treatments of 21 (48.9%) patients were made in cities close to the boundary. Nineteen patients (51.1%) were brought to the center by air ambulance to the Health Ministry. 25 of the patients (58.1%) were men. Mean age was 26.7 years (1 year - 67 years). Burn reasons: flame burns in 34 patients (79.0%), scald in 6 patients (14.0%), chemical burns in 2 patients (4.7%), in 1 patient (2.3%), contact burns. Burn reasons: flame burns in 34 patients (79.0%), scald in 6 patients (14.0%), chemical burns in 2 patients (4.7%), contact burns in 1 patient (2.3%). Burns of 14 patients (32.5%) were occurred on battlefield. Ten (23.3%) patients burned in a fire in refugee camps. Total body surface area affected by burns (TBSA) average is 56.7%. Burned TBSA of 9 patients were over 90%. Affected body regions: face in 36 patients (83.7%), neck in 34 cases (79.1%), trunk in 31 cases (72%) and upper limbs in 26 cases (60.5%). 22 of the patients (51.1) performed bronchoscopic examination with suspected inhalation injury and 13 (30.2%) were positive. 29 of the patients (67.4%) were followed in burn intensive care unit. Various surgical operations such as escharotomy, fasciotomy, tangential excision, auto-grafts were performed in 33 (76.7%) patients. The early mortality rate was %39.5% (17/43).

Conclusion: In addition to our center, there are hundreds of Syrian burn patients treated in other hospitals in our country. The etiology of burns was flame burns in 79% of patients. The face and the neck were the most affected body areas and inhalation burns were quite high. These features are common seen in war related burns. Unfortunately, burns are one of the inevitable consequences of wars.