

**Press Release** 

The British Burn Association wishes to highlight two particular issues of particular public health concern ahead of National Burn Awareness day on 14<sup>th</sup> October.

The first is firework safety in the run up to Bonfire Night. Whilst it is likely that there will be no organised public displays this year, we are concerned that this may result in an increased number of garden displays and personal firework purchases. Our recommendation is to take extreme care to avoid risk of injury and presenting to already over-stretched NHS services.

The other is steam inhalation scalds, of which there was a substantial increase in numbers during the peak of the first wave of Covid-19. There is no evidence of any benefit from this practice, and large bowls of scalding hot water are a serious risk to both adults and children, requiring hospitalisation and possible surgery.

Professor Kayvan Shokrollahi

The British Burn Association