

## Letter to the Editor

### Unusual skin burn with hot sealing wax and removal of sealing wax particles from burned skin with sunflower oil

To the Editor,

A variety of unusual burns such as from laundry detergent,<sup>[1]</sup> nail glue<sup>[2]</sup> and herb of grace<sup>[3]</sup> have been reported in the literature. To the best of our knowledge, skin burn caused by sealing wax has not been reported previously. Many types of sealing wax have been manufactured. Sealing wax is melted down before its use, at 200-240°F in 10-15 seconds. Removal of sticky sealing wax compound may be very difficult without inflicting additional tissue damage in the burned skin area. Early removal of wax particles is important in the treatment of the burn and improves patient comfort. We used sunflower oil to remove sealing wax particles as previously reported for removing hot tar burn particles.<sup>[4]</sup> A 25-year-old male with second degree skin burn on his face and right distal arm was admitted to our clinic (Fig. 1). The patient explained that the red sealing wax had spilt on his face and right distal arm while melting it one day before. The patient used cold treatment, and a closed dressing with ointment cream had been applied on the burned skin area before our acceptance. First, his dressing was opened,

and his face and right distal arm were washed with sunflower oil. All sealing wax particles were removed easily with sunflower oil, and epithelization cream (Bepanthen cream®-Roche) was used for open treatment. The patient recovered in two weeks with no skin graft (Fig. 1). We suggest that physicians should keep sunflower oil treatment in mind as a practical and inexpensive method for the removal of unusual sealing wax particles from burned skin areas.

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#### References

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**Fig. 1.** View of second degree skin burn from hot sealing wax on the patient's face and right distal arm (above and below; left); at two weeks (above and below; middle); and at one month (above and below; right).