




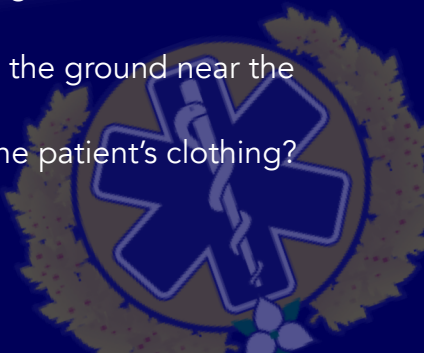
Emergency Medical Responder

# BITES AND STINGS



Stay safe during assessment

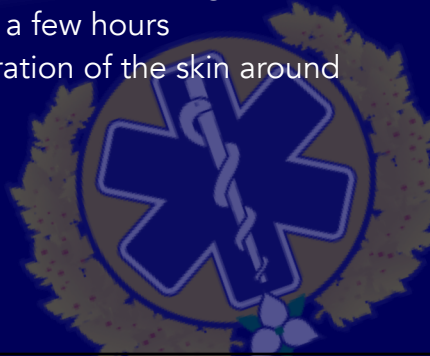
- Is(are) insect(s) visible in tree or in house eaves?
- What was the patient doing at the time he or she was bitten?
- Are there dead insects on the ground near the patient?
- Are there still insects on the patient's clothing?





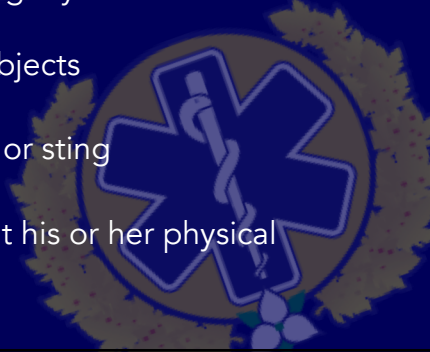
## Signs and Symptoms of bites and stings

- History of bites and stings
- Bite mark or stinger embedded in skin
- Immediate pain that is severe and burning
- Numbness at the site after a few hours
- Redness or other discoloration of the skin around the bite or sting
- Swelling around the site



## Emergency Medical Care

- 1) Perform a primary assessment
- 2) Administer oxygen, if allowed
- 3) Position the bite or sting slightly below the level of the patient's heart
- 4) Remove any constricting objects
- 5) Inspect the bite or sting
- 6) Wash the area around bite or sting
- 7) Apply a cold pack
- 8) Keep the patient calm, limit his or her physical activity





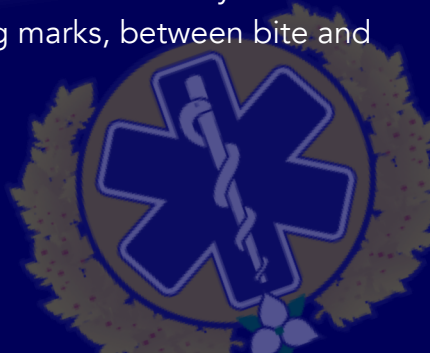
## Snake Bite - Signs and Symptoms

- 1) Blurred vision, drooping eyelids
- 2) Drowsiness, slurred speech
- 3) Increased salivation and sweating
- 4) Nausea, vomiting
- 5) Weakness, paralysis
- 6) Seizures, unconsciousness



## Constricting Bands (Use only on extremities)

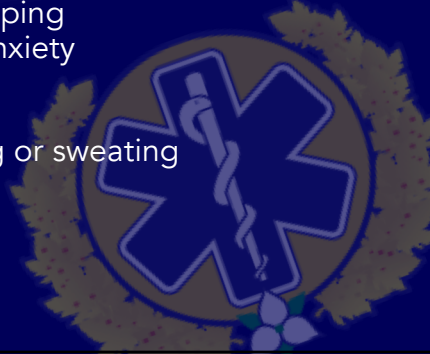
- Find fang marks
- Wrap 5-7 cm wide band around extremity
- Place 5-10 cm above fang marks, between bite and patient's heart





### Signs of Black Widow Bite

- Brief pinprick sensation at bite location
- Flushing, sweating and grimacing of the face within 10 minutes to 2 hours
- Pain and spasms in shoulders, back, chest, and abdominal muscles within 30 minutes to 3 hours
- Rigid abdomen and cramping
- Agitation, restlessness, anxiety
- Lack of coordination
- Weakness, headache
- Profuse salivation, tearing or sweating
- Fever, rash
- Nausea, vomiting



### Scorpion Bites – Signs and Symptoms

- nausea
- vomiting
- drooling
- poor coordination
- incontinence
- seizures



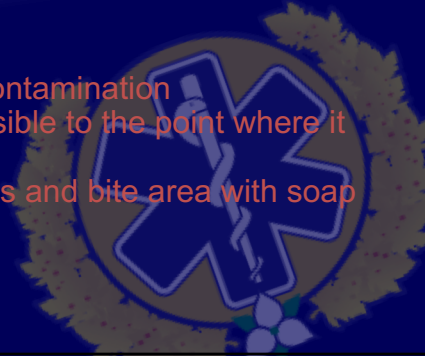


### Tick bites

Can lead to tick fever, Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, Lyme disease and other potential diseases.

### Removal of a tick

- 1) Use tweezers to prevent contamination
- 2) Grasp tick as close as possible to the point where it has attached to the skin
- 3) Once removed, wash hands and bite area with soap and water



### Bee, Wasp, or Hornet Stings: Emergency Care

- 1) Lower affected part below level of the heart
- 2) Apply a constricting band above the sting site, if it is on an extremity
- 3) Remove the stinger





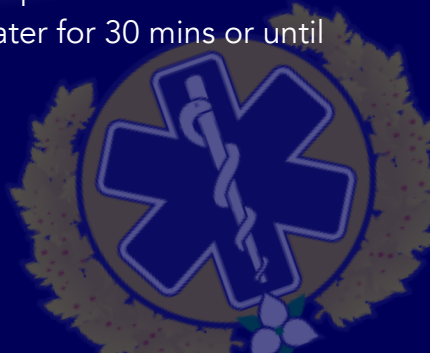
### Marine Life Poisoning

- Use forceps to remove any material that sticks to sting site
- Irrigate wound with water
- If skin is unbroken, wash wound with antibacterial agent
- Remove stingers and barbs the same way as you would with bee stingers
- Apply heat
- Alert incoming paramedics



### Tentacle Stings: Jellyfish, Corals, Hydras, Anemones

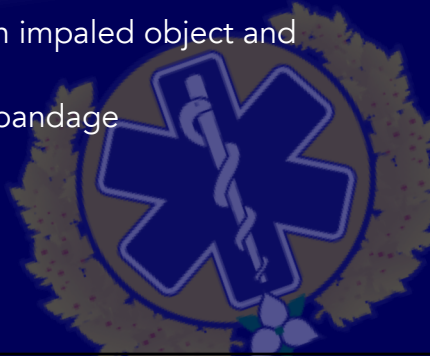
- 1) Remove dried tentacles, if possible
- 2) Rinse wounds with sea water for 30 mins or until pain gone
- 3) Arrange transport ASAP





Puncture Wounds:  
Stingray Spines and Spiny Fish

- Remove patient from water
- If spine is in skin, treat as an impaled object and stabilize it
- Apply sterile dressing and bandage
- Arrange transport ASAP



Large Bites:  
Sharks and Other Marine Life

- Treat as any other major injury
- Treat life threats
- Arrange transport ASAP
- If possible, ID animal that caused injury

