

3.01 BITES, STINGS AND ENVENOMATION

BITES AND STINGS
BLS Treatment
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Position of comfort.• NPO• Oxygen as indicated.• Remove the stinger or injection/biting mechanism if visible.• Neutralize jellyfish stings with vinegar or baking soda paste if available at scene.• Apply heat to stingray and sea urchin and other unidentified marine animal stings.• Apply cooling measures on wound site for land animal/insect bite.• May help patient administer their prescribed EpiPen autoinjector or equivalent product.
ALS Treatment
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• IV/IO with Normal Saline TKO.• If pain, administer Morphine.
Comments
<p><u>LOCALIZED REACTION</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Puncture marks at injury site• Rash, hives• Localized erythema/edema/decreased pain or touch sensation <p><u>SYSTEMIC REACTION</u></p> <p>Any localized reaction with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Respiratory distress, wheezing, stridor or tachypnea• Hypotension, tachycardia• Diaphoresis (out of proportion to air temperature)• See Protocol 2.02 Allergic Reaction if signs or symptoms of an allergic reaction.

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ENVENOMATION
BLS Treatment
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Position of comfort.• NPO.• Oxygen as indicated.• Do not attempt to capture live snake/animal.• Remove rings or other jewelry from affected extremity to prevent possible constriction due to edema.• If extremity bite, immobilize the affected extremity.• Minimize exertion of victim.• Rapid transport of all suspected envenomation for medical evaluation.
ALS Treatment
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• IV or IO of Normal Saline TKO.• If SBP < 90 or signs of poor perfusion, Normal Saline fluid bolus.• For pain, may administer: Morphine Sulfate
Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Do not use lymphatic constriction bands, tourniquets, electric shock, or alcohol.• Do not incise envenomation.• Do not use mouth suction or commercial extraction pumps (e.g. Sawyer extraction pump).• Do not apply Ice.• All “pet” snakes must be positively identified, if possible.• Zoos and legal exotic snake collectors are required to have a supply of antivenin on hand for each type of snake in their care. If available, bring antivenin/container with patient to hospital.• Bites from coral snakes, elapids related to cobras, usually do not present with early symptoms. All bites are considered envenomated.