

Emergency Medical Services Program Policies – Procedures – Protocols

BITES/STINGS/ENVENOMATION (105)

Adults	Pediatrics (13 years and under)
Public Safety First Aid Procedures:	Public Safety First Aid Procedures:
 Remove victim from vicinity of animal/insect if safe to do so Support ABC's Request Fire/EMS Determine type of injury If signs of anaphylaxis or shock, enter Allergic Reaction/Anaphylaxis Protocol (103) Remove jewelry and clothing from involved area Immobilize affected area at or slightly below level of heart Outline area of swelling with pen and record time If insect bite/sting, keep extremities at heart level, splint and apply ice. 	 Remove victim from vicinity of animal/insect if safe to do so Support ABC's Request Fire/EMS Determine type of injury If signs of anaphylaxis or shock enter Allergic Reaction/Anaphylaxis Protocol (103) Remove jewelry and clothing from involved area Immobilize affected area at or slightly below level of heart Outline area of swelling with pen and record time If insect bite/sting, keep extremities at heart level, splint and apply ice.
If bee sting remove stinger by scraping only.	If bee sting remove stinger by scraping only.
BLS Procedures: EMT's and Paramedics	BLS Procedures: EMT's and Paramedics
 Remove victim from vicinity of animal/insect if safe to do so Give Oxygen only if SpO2<94% or if in respiratory distress If signs of Allergic reaction/anaphylaxis enter Allergic Reaction/Anaphylaxis Protocol (103) Remove jewelry and clothing from involved area Immobilize affected area at or slightly below level of heart Outline area of swelling with pen and record time If insect bite/sting, keep extremities at heart level, splint and apply ice. If bee sting remove stinger by scraping only. ALS Prior to Base Hospital Contact: Paramedic only Consider IV access to non-affected limb 	 Remove victim from vicinity of animal/insect if safe to do so Give Oxygen only if SpO2<94% or if in respiratory distress If signs of Allergic reaction/anaphylaxis enter Allergic Reaction/Anaphylaxis Protocol (103) Remove jewelry and clothing from involved area Immobilize affected area at or slightly below level of heart Outline area of swelling with pen and record time If insect bite/sting, keep extremities at heart level, splint and apply ice. If bee sting remove stinger by scraping only. ALS Prior to Base Hospital Contact: Paramedic only Consider IV access to non-affected limb
Base Hospital Contact Required	Base Hospital Contact Required
105 BITES STINGS ENVENOMATION	



Emergency Medical Services Program Policies – Procedures – Protocols

BITES/STINGS/ENVENOMATION (105)

Special Considerations

Reminders for snake bite

- Tourniquets should not be used.
- Remove any tight-fitting jewelry or clothing near the envenomation site.
- Keep patient at rest.
- DO NOT apply ice or cooling.
- DO NOT allow incision of the wound. The provider should try to safely ascertain the type of snake if possible.
- DO NOT transport or bring the snake to the hospital.

If snake was an exotic pet or zoo animal, patient may present with the following:

- Neurologic or respiratory depression.
- Observe for changes to mental status, respiratory status, convulsions, or paralysis.

Reminders for insect Bites/Stings

- Bring animal or insect to the hospital only if dead.
- DO NOT touch a bee stinger that is still in place.
- Use an object to scrape the stinger off of the skin (i.e. hard piece of plastic, credit card, etc.).
- DO NOT submerge extremities in ice.
- Apply an ice pack, or cooling compress localized to the area of the bites/stings
- Consider intravenous access to a non-affected limb if possible.