



ORANGE COUNTY EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES  
PREHOSPITAL BLS STANDING ORDERS

SNAKE ENVENOMATION – ADULT/ADOLESCENT

#: SO-B-04  
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Org Date: 7/01/2018  
Revised: \_\_\_\_\_

**BLSTANDING ORDERS:**

1. Assure scene is safe and risk of second snake strikes are alleviated. If snake located, take cell phone picture of snake, if can be done safely, to show to receiving facility staff.
2. Activate 911-ALS response, if not already done
3. Minimize patient movement.
4. Splint or otherwise immobilize the affected extremity; keep affected extremity at the level of the heart.
5. Do not use cold packs.

**TREATMENT GUIDELINES:**

1. Past recommendations for use of tourniquet and keeping affected extremity below the level of the heart is no longer current due to increased risk of edema and subsequent circulatory compromise in the bite area.

Approved:

A handwritten signature in blue ink that appears to read 'S. Bradbury'.

Reviewed:  
Implementation Date: July 01, 2018  
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