

## ANIMAL BITES

1. Assess scene safety paying special attention to the potential presence of aggressive animals.
2. Contact appropriate animal control agencies to ensure capture, appropriate caging, restraint, or euthanasia of offending animal.
3. If significant injuries are present, administer **O<sub>2</sub>**, apply cardiac monitor, and establish IV/IO access.
4. Perform copious irrigation with sterile saline and/or tap water and apply sterile dressings.
5. Remove constricting jewelry from a bitten extremity.
6. If fractures are suspected, splint the extremity.
7. If severe pain is present consider administering **fentanyl** at 0.5-1 mcg/kg IV/IO/IM, up to a total dose of 3 mcg/kg as long as BP > 100.
8. Animal bites shall be promptly reported to SCRAPS. In the rare case that a patient refuses transport, the EMS providers shall contact **SCRAPS (509-477-2532)** to ensure the bite has been reported. In addition, for transported patients, the EMS provider shall request that the hospital personnel report the bite to SCRAPS and document this request.\*

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\*Does not apply to commissioned service animals.