

Effective Date : November 18, 2018

Last Review: October 3, 2011

Next Review: November 2020

Authority: Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5, California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 9

DEFINITION: May present as a localized reaction with redness, pain and swelling at the site or a systemic reaction such as itchiness, flushing of skin, rash, urticaria, tachycardia, and anaphylaxis.

Insect Bites and Stings:

1. Assess wound, remove stinger by scraping with an edge of a stiff object such as a credit card edge.
2. May use localized ice pack for pain and swelling. Do not apply ice directly to the skin.

Black Widow Spider Bites:

1. Localized signs and symptoms include immediate pain, redness and swelling at the injection site.
2. Systemic signs and symptoms may include progressive muscle spasms, severe abdominal pain, N/V, sweating, seizures, paralysis, hypertension, diminished level of consciousness.

Snakebites:

1. **DO NOT TRANSPORT** a live snake, even if you think it is dead, do not touch. **Pictures are good.**
2. Do not apply ice.
3. Do not incise or attempt to suck the venom from the wound.
4. Do not apply constricting band or tourniquet. If constricting band or tourniquet has been applied prior to arrival do not release.
5. Pain, edema and discoloration may be present.
6. Systemic signs and symptoms may be present including:
 - a. Nausea/Vomiting, weakness, diaphoresis, chills, or dizziness.
 - b. Change in taste may be reported as a minty, rubbery, or metallic taste.
 - c. Tingling, numbness, and fasciculations (spasms) of face.

BLS TREATMENT:

OXYGEN: as appropriate, goal to maintain SPO2 at least 94%, assist ventilations as necessary

VITALS: assess vitals frequently, every 5 minutes if hypotensive; refer to **M6 Allergic Reaction Protocol** if necessary.

BLOOD SUGAR CHECK: test blood sugar treat as appropriate.

CHECK TEMPERATURE: assess temperature and keep the patients warm

NPO: Do not give patient anything to eat or drink.

IDENTIFY: note location of the wound and identify extent of redness or swelling mark it; mark affected area and track swelling every fifteen minutes.

IMMOBILIZE: immobilize affected extremity; remove distal jewelry; assess circulation, sensation and motor function before and after immobilization.



POLICY ADULT M15 ENVENOMATION-BITES-STINGS

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ALS TREATMENT:

MONITOR: treat arrhythmias as appropriate.

IV ACCESS: establish IV/IO rate as appropriate; if **SBP is less than 90mmHg** give 500 ml bolus and repeat as indicated until **SBP is greater than 90 mmHg**; refer to **M6 Allergic Reaction Protocol** if necessary.

PAIN MANAGEMENT: treat pain as appropriate to **M2 Pain Management Protocol**.

BLACK WIDOW SPIDER BITE: if muscle spasms are severe; **MIDAZOLAM** - 2 mg IV/IO push. Titrate in 1 mg increments to control muscle spasms max dose 5 mg IV/IO; 5 mg IN or IM if no immediate IV/IO access available; may repeat once after 10 minutes if spasms continue.

CONSIDERATIONS:

Monitor patient for signs of anaphylaxis, especially from insect stings.