

TALATI'S 8<sup>TH</sup> EAST BOMBAY

**FIRST AID**

**PART II**





# Topic



# POISON

(with specific reference to  
**Bites & Stings**)



**What is Poison?**

# WHAT IS POISON?

‘**Poison**’ is a substance that, if taken into or absorbed into the body in sufficient quantity, can cause either temporary or permanent damage.

Poison can enter the body generally by 3 modes

- ❖ **Ingestion** – orally through mouth
- ❖ **Inhalation** – through nose
- ❖ **Injection** – through skin

It can also enter the body through open wounds or through eyes, ears, etc.



# Stings and Bites

# Difference between Bites and Stings :



A **Bite** is usually from mouth and occurs when the animal pierces the skin. Often the insect injects anticoagulant saliva so that they can feed on the victim's blood.

A **Sting** is when an animal/insect transfers toxic venom into the victim's system, often as a defence mechanism.



**SYMPTOMS**

# SYMPTOMS



*Depending on the species, but generally*

Pain, Redness and Swelling at the site of sting / bite

Nausea and Vomiting

Headache





**Your Aim**



- **To control bleeding.**
  - **To relieve pain and swelling.**
  - **To minimise the risk of infection.**
  - **To obtain medical help, if necessary.**
- (if you suspect Rabies, shift the casualty to hospital immediately)**



**TREATMENT**



# Treatment (general)

- **Wash the area with soap and water (preferably hot)**
- **Place a cold compress**
- **If the sting is visible, brush or scrap it off sideways with the edge of a credit card as quickly as possible. Do not use tweezers (as you could squeeze the sting and inject more poison into the casualty)**

Contd...



# Treatment (contd...)

- **If the wound is deep, control bleeding by applying direct pressure over a sterile pad and raise the injured part.**
- **Cover the wound and pad with a sterile dressing and bandage firmly in place.**
- **Treat the casualty for shock.**
- **Casualty may develop anaphylactic shock.**
- **Arrange to take him to the hospital.**

# TREATMENT (special case)

## Snake Bite

Help the casualty to lie down with head and shoulders raised  
Reassure the casualty.

Tell him to keep calm and advise him not to move his limbs.

## Stings in the mouth and throat

If the casualty has been stung in the mouth, there is a risk that swelling of tissues in the mouth and/or throat may occur, causing the airway to become blocked. To help prevent this, give the casualty an ice cube to suck or a glass of cold water to sip.

# Thank You

## For Attending This Session

TALATI'S 8<sup>TH</sup> EAST BOMBAY

