TALATI'S 8TH EAST BOMBAY

FIRST AID PARTII





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.

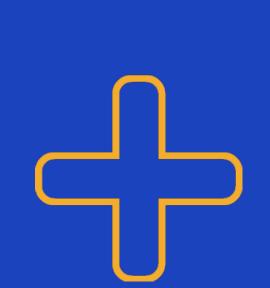
Poison can enter the body generally by 3 modes

- 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 venominto the victim's system, often as a defence mechanism.



SYMPTOMS

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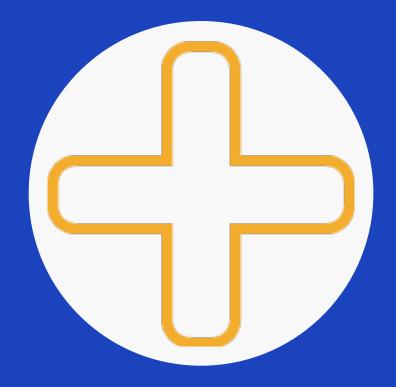


Depending on the species, but generally

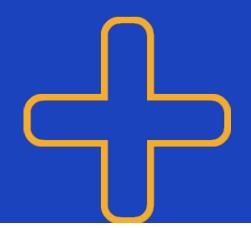
Pain, Redness and Swelling at the site of sting / bite

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

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