



BITES AND STINGS



Escambia County, Florida - ALS/BLS Medical Protocol

This protocol includes the treatment for snakebites, dog and cat bites, insect stings, marine envenomations and stings.

Snake Bites

Supportive Care

1. [Trauma Supportive Care Protocol](#).
2. Consider treatment need for [Allergic Reactions/ Anaphylaxis](#).
3. Splint affected area, place patient supine with extremities at a neutral level, keep patient quiet, remove and secure all jewelry.
4. Wash area of bite with copious amounts of water.
5. Attempt to identify snake, if safe to do so. (Dead snakes can envenomate, do not handle.)
6. Check temperature and pulse distal to bite on extremity and mark level of swelling and time with pen every 15 minutes.

ALS Level 1

1. Establish IV access
2. [Pain Management](#).

ALS Level 2 (Physician Authorization Required)

None



Approved: 10/01/2011
Version: 3.1

Page 1 of 6

Approved by:


Charles Neal, D.O. Medical Director



BITES AND STINGS



Escambia County, Florida - ALS/BLS Medical Protocol

Dog ,Cat and Wild Animal Bites

Supportive Care

1. [Trauma Supportive Care Protocol.](#)
2. Wound care - BLS (do not use hydrogen peroxide on deep puncture wounds or wounds exposing fat). Clean area with soap and water.
3. Advise dispatch to contact animal control and PD for identification and quarantine of animal.

ALS Level 1

1. [Pain Management.](#)
2. Establish IV access if bite severe or multiple or significant blood loss.

ALS Level 2 (Physician Authorization Required)

None



Approved: 10/01/2011
Version: 3.1

Page 2 of 6

Approved by:


Charles Neal, D.O. Medical Director



BITES AND STINGS



Escambia County, Florida - ALS/BLS Medical Protocol

Insect Stings *(including: Centipedes, Scorpions and Spiders)*

Supportive Care

1. [Trauma Supportive Care Protocol](#).
2. Consider treatment need for [Allergic Reactions/ Anaphylaxis](#).
3. Remove stinger by scraping skin with edge of flat surface (e.g. credit card).
Do not attempt to pull stinger out, as this may release more venom.
4. Clean area with soap and water.

ALS Level 1

1. [Pain Management](#).
2. IV access.

ALS Level 2 (*Physician Authorization Required*)

None



Approved: 10/01/2011
Version: 3.1

Page 3 of 6

Approved by:


Charles Neal, D.O. Medical Director



BITES AND STINGS



Escambia County, Florida - ALS/BLS Medical Protocol

Marine Animal Envenomations

Stingray, Scorpionfish (Lionfish, Zebrafish, Stonefish), Catfish, Weeverfish, Starfish, and Sea Urchin

Supportive Care

1. [Trauma Supportive Care Protocol](#).
2. Consider treatment need for [Allergic Reactions/ Anaphylaxis](#).
3. Immerse the punctures in **nonscalding hot water** to tolerance (110-113 degrees F) to achieve pain relief (30-90 minutes). Transport should not be delayed, immersion in **nonscalding hot water** may be continued during transport.
4. Gently wash wound with soap and water, then irrigate vigorously with fresh water (avoid scrubbing).

ALS Level 1

1. [Pain Management](#).
2. Establish IV access

ALS Level 2 (Physician Authorization Required)

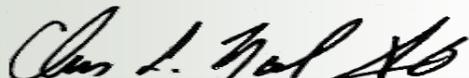
None



Approved: 10/01/2011
Version: 3.1

Page 4 of 6

Approved by:


Charles Neal, D.O. Medical Director



BITES AND STINGS



Escambia County, Florida - ALS/BLS Medical Protocol

Marine Animal Stings

Jellyfish, Man-of-War, Sea Nettle, Irukandji, Anemone, Hydroid, Fire Coral

Supportive Care

1. [Trauma Supportive Care Protocol](#).
2. Consider treatment need for [Allergic Reactions/ Anaphylaxis](#).
3. Rinse the skin with sea water (Do not use fresh water, do not apply ice, do not rub the skin).
3. Apply soaks of acetic acid 5% (vinegar) until pain is relieved. If vinegar is not available, use a paste of baking soda or unseasoned meat tenderizer.
5. Remove large tentacle fragments using forceps (use gloves to avoid contact with bare hands).
6. Apply a lather of shaving cream or a paste of baking soda and shave the affected area with edge of flat surface (e.g. credit card).
7. Apply heat pack to area.

ALS Level 1

1. [Pain Management](#).
2. Establish IV access

ALS Level 2

None



Approved: 10/01/2011
Version: 3.1

Page 5 of 6

Approved by:


Charles Neal, D.O. Medical Director



BITES AND STINGS



Escambia County, Florida - ALS/BLS Medical Protocol

Human Bites

Supportive Care

1. [Trauma Supportive Care Protocol](#).
2. Wound care - BLS (do not use hydrogen peroxide on deep puncture wounds or wounds exposing fat). Clean area with soap and water.
3. Advise dispatch to contact PD for possible domestic.

ALS Level 1

1. [Pain Management](#).
2. Establish IV access if bite severe or multiple or blood loss significant.

ALS Level 2 (Physician Authorization Required)

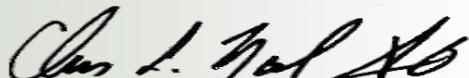
None



Approved: 10/01/2011
Version: 3.1

Page 6 of 6

Approved by:


Charles Neal, D.O. Medical Director