



PEDIATRIC BITES AND STINGS



Escambia County, Florida - ALS/BLS Medical Protocol

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

All bites should be transported to the hospital.

Snake Bites

Supportive Care

1. [Trauma Supportive Care Protocol](#).
2. Consider need for [Pediatric Protocol 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.
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

8. Refer to [Pediatric Protocol for Pain Management](#).

ALS Level 2 (*Physician Authorization Required*)

None



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Dog and 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).
3. Advise dispatch to contact animal control and law enforcement for identification and quarantine of animal.

ALS Level 1

5. Refer to [Pediatric Protocol for Pain Management.](#)

ALS Level 2 (*Physician Authorization Required*)

None

Insect Stings

(including: Centipedes, Scorpions and Spiders)

Supportive Care

1. [Trauma Supportive Care Protocol.](#)
2. Consider need for [Pediatric Protocol Allergic Reactions/ Anaphylaxis.](#)
3. Remove stinger by scraping skin with edge of flat surface (e.g. credit card).



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Do not attempt to pull stinger out, as this may release more venom.

- Clean area with soap and water.

ALS Level 1

- Refer to [Pediatric Protocol for Pain Management](#).

ALS Level 2 (*Physician Authorization Required*)

None

Marine Animal Envenomations

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

Supportive Care

- [Trauma Supportive Care Protocol](#).
- Consider need for [Pediatric Protocol Allergic Reactions/ Anaphylaxis](#).
- Immerse the punctures in non-scalding hot water to tolerance (110-113 degrees F) to achieve pain relief (30-90 minutes). Transport should not be delayed, immersion in non-scalding hot water may be continued during transport.
- Remove any visible pieces of the spine(s) or sheath. Gently wash wound with



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soap and water, then irrigate vigorously with fresh water (avoid scrubbing).

ALS Level 1

6. Refer to [Pediatric Protocol for Pain Management](#).

ALS Level 2 (*Physician Authorization Required*)

None

Marine Animal Stings

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

Supportive Care

1. [Trauma Supportive Care Protocol](#).
2. Consider need for [Pediatric Protocol Allergic Reactions/ Anaphylaxis](#).
3. Rinse the skin with sea water (Do not use fresh water, do not apply ice, do not rub the skin).
4. 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.



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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

9. Refer to [Pediatric Protocol for Pain Management](#).

ALS Level 2 (*Physician Authorization Required*)

None

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 law enforcement for possible domestic.



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ALS Level 1

4. Refer to [Pediatric Protocol for Pain Management](#).

ALS Level 2 (*Physician Authorization Required*)

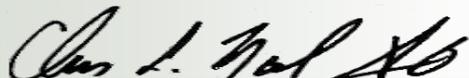
None



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