



St John

Saving Lives –
at Work, Home
and Play

Bites & Stings

Part 2



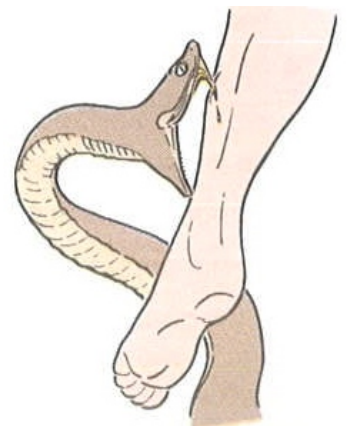
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SPIDER BITE

1. Clean the area around the bite.
2. Apply an ice pack (15 minutes on and 15 minutes off) to numb the area.
3. Keep the limb below the level of the heart in order to slow the spread of poison.
4. Get medical help if muscle cramps begin.

SNAKE BITE

1. Make sure there is no danger of a second snakebite to either the casualty or yourself!
2. Place the casualty at rest in a semi-sitting position and keep the affected limb below heart level. By placing the casualty at rest, the venom will not spread as quickly.
3. Flush the bite with soapy water if available. **DO NOT** apply cold compresses or ice.
4. Immobilise the limb.
5. Transport the casualty to medical help as soon as possible.



IMPORTANT:

- ✓ Most snakes will be within 10 metres of the place where the bite took place – **BE CAREFUL!**
- ✓ If the snake has been killed, take it to medical help for identification.
- ✗ **AVOID** touching the dead snake's head as it may still have a bite reflex.
- ✗ **DO NOT** cut the puncture marks or try to suck poison out with your mouth.
- ✗ **DO NOT** let the casualty walk if other methods of transportation are available.
- ✗ **DO NOT** give the casualty alcoholic beverages.

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Ambulance.....

Emergency Room.....

Family Doctor.....

Poison Info Centre.....

Police.....

Fire.....