



Treatment Protocol: STINGS / VENOMOUS BITES

Ref. No. 1224-P

1. Assess airway and initiate basic and/or advanced airway maneuvers prn ([MCG 1302](#))
2. Prioritize treatment of systemic symptoms
For signs or symptoms of allergic reaction, treat in conjunction with [TP 1219-P, Allergy](#)
For poor perfusion ([MCG 1355](#)), treat in conjunction with [TP 1207-P, Shock/Hypotension](#)
3. Keep patient calm and limit activity
Position affected extremity at or below level of the heart
4. For SNAKE BITES:
Splint the affected area
Elevate the extremity to the level of the heart
5. For INSECT (bee, wasp, ant), SPIDER and SCORPION STINGS:
Remove stinger if visualized ❶
Apply cold pack
6. For MARINE ENVENOMATIONS (e.g., jelly fish, stingrays and scorpion fish):
Remove barb when applicable
Soak area in hot water ❷
7. Establish vascular access prn ([MCG 1375](#))
8. For continued pain after specific measures above: refer to [MCG 1345, Pain Management](#)
Dose per [MCG 1309](#)
9. For nausea or vomiting in patients ≥ 4 years old:
Ondansetron 4mg ODT



SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- ❶ Remove stinger by scraping patient's skin with the edge of a flat surface (credit card or similar). Do not attempt to pull the stinger out with fingernails or tweezers, as this may cause release of additional venom.
- ❷ Do not use vinegar given the type of jellyfish endemic to California.

