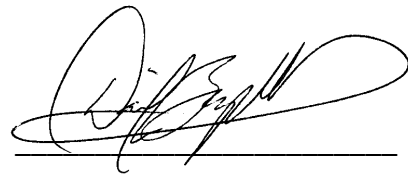


EL DORADO COUNTY EMS AGENCY

PREHOSPITAL PROTOCOLS

Superseded: January 1, 2017



EMS Agency Medical Director

BLS Bites and Stings

INFORMATION NEEDED:

- Type of animal or insect:
 - Time of exposure
- Wound site:
 - Puncture marks, teeth marks, stingers

OBJECTIVE FINDINGS:

- Local Reaction:
 - Rash, hives, localized swelling, hot to touch, decreased pain or sense of touch
- Systemic Reaction: Refer to Allergic Reaction - Anaphylaxis protocol.

TREATMENT:

1. Ensure personal safety
2. ABC's
3. Oxygen 10-15L/min via non-rebreather mask. Assist respirations with BVM and airway adjunct if respirations are ineffective.
4. Remove Stinger using a scraping motion, do not squeeze venom sac.
5. Circle Swelling- if any around bite mark(s) with a pen and note time. Measure the circumference of the extremity proximal to the bite and note time. This measurement is used as a baseline for determining the progress of swelling.
6. Avoid Movement of the affected extremity; keep the extremity in the neutral position.
7. Cold packs may be applied for pain (avoid placing ice directly on skin).
8. Dress wounds with gauze as needed.
9. Routine medical care.

NOTES:

1. Notify animal control and law enforcement for all animal bites.

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2. Time since envenomation is important. Please document appropriately and inform hospital staff.