

**Subject - Environmental Emergencies (Bites and Envenomation)**

Authority: California Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5 EMS, Sections 1797.220 & 1797.221

**I. Definitions**

- A. Any bit or sting from spiders, bees, wasps, ants, snakes, scorpions, and ticks, and injuries from marine animals.

**II. Basic Life Support – All Providers (Public Safety First Aid, First Responder, Emergency Medical Technician, Paramedic)**

- A. Provide General Medical Care.
- B. Protect patient from further environmental exposure.
- C. Bites or Stings:
  - 1. Remove stinger if still present.
  - 2. Assess for signs of allergic/anaphylactic reactions per *treatment guideline Allergic/Anaphylactic reactions*.
  - 3. For suspected venomous snake bites:
    - a. Do not delay transport.
    - b. Early receiving facility notification.
    - c. Immobilize extremity at or below heart level.
    - d. DO NOT:
      - (1) Apply ice to the site.
      - (2) Make incision over the bite.
      - (3) Use restrictive bands.

**III. Advanced Life Support – Paramedic Only**

- A. Suspected venomous snake bites:
  - 1. Consider pain management per *treatment guideline Pain Management*.

**IV. Special Considerations**

- A. None.

**V. Base Orders**

- A. None.

**VI. Contraindications**

- A. None.

**VII. Cross Reference**

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|------------------------------------|------------------|
| A. General Medical Care            | Policy No. Draft |
| B. Allergic/Anaphylactic Reactions | Policy No. Draft |
| C. Pain Management                 | Policy No. Draft |