

ENVIRONMENTAL EMERGENCIES
E – 3 / ENVENOMATION

PRIORITIES

- ABCs
- Keep patient calm, determine degree of physiologic distress
- **EARLY TRANSPORT/BASE NOTIFICATION** (after initiating therapy, if appropriate).
- Accurate description of snake, spider, insect, etc.
- **EARLY CONTACT OF RECEIVING HOSPITAL.**

**Reviewed &
Changed
July 2006**

PATIENT TREATMENT GUIDELINES

- Stabilize airway.
- **OXYGEN** therapy – as needed;
- **CARDIAC MONITOR**
- **IV Access TKO**; use unaffected extremity
- **CONSIDER SPECIFIC TREATMENTS:**
- See next page for specific treatments;

DISRUPTED COMMUNICATIONS

In the event that a Solano County EMT-P is UNABLE to make physician contact for orders, the paramedic MAY NOT utilize those areas of the protocol needing physician direction and MUST TRANSPORT IMMEDIATELY TO THE CLOSEST FACILITY.

ENVIRONMENTAL EMERGENCIES

E – 3 / ENVENOMATION

E 3-1 / ENVENOMATION - SPECIFIC TREATMENTS

SNAKE BITES <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ If snake is dead, transport to Emergency Department in appropriate container.➤ Assess the site of the wound for swelling or redness from bite. Circle the affected area of the skin, noting the time.➤ Avoid excessive movement of the affected extremity, immobilize at or slightly below the level of the heart.➤ Keep the patient at rest.➤ Do NOT incise the skin; do NOT apply ice, tourniquet or any other constricting device;➤ Monitor distal pulses.	BEES / WASPS <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Remove stinger by scraping it off the skin. Do not squeeze.➤ Apply cold packs.
SPIDER BITES / SCORPION STINGS <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ If possible transport spider to Emergency Department in sealed container.➤ Apply cold pack to affected area;➤ Avoid excessive movement, keeping the affected extremity dependent.	JELLY FISH <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Rinse site of sting with alcohol or salt water without rubbing or applying pressure.
STING RAY <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Soak in warm water.➤ Do not remove barb.	

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