

First Aid for Venomous Bites and Stings

Australia is home to some of the most venomous creatures in the world! They can inject venom through bites and stings. Learn the correct first aid such as DRS ABCD, the Pressure Immobilisation Technique (PIT) and other creature-specific first aid specified below to help guide you on what to do. Remember - DRS ABCD takes precedence over the PIT or other creature-specific first aid if the victim is not breathing normally or has stopped breathing.

Always alert an adult and seek medical advice by calling 000 for an ambulance.

Pressure Immobilisation Technique (PIT):



Australian snakes including sea snakes



Funnelweb and big black spiders



Blue-ringed octopuses



Cone snails

Learn more about venomous creatures and first aid via the Australian Bites & Stings App! For further information on bites or stings, please talk to your doctor.

Hot Water:



Stingrays



Stinging fish (including stonefish)

Ice/cold Pack*:



Red back spiders



Wasps, bees, ants (remove sting carefully by scraping away first)



Leeches (remove leech and wash area first)



Other spiders (except funnelweb and big black spiders)



Scorpions



Centipedes

*People can develop severe allergic reactions to bites/stings from insects.

Contact 000 for emergency assistance if this occurs.

Sea Water: (non-tropical jellyfish stings)



Blue bottle*

*sea water can be used to remove tentacles. Then immerse the stung area in hot water e.g. hot shower.

Vinegar: (tropical jellyfish stings)



Box jellyfish and Irukandii

DRS ABCD:

Danger ▶ Response ▶ Send for help ▶ Airway ▶ Breathing ▶ CPR ▶ Defibrillation



This material is funded by the Australian Government Department of Health. **CSL Seqirus**

The above information is indicative in nature and general only. Always seek professional medical advice in the event of a venomous bite or sting.

Download the Australian Bites & Stings App now!



