

SNAKE BITE

Signs and Symptoms of Poisonous Bite

<p>Mild to Moderate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swelling, discoloration, or pain to site. • Rapid pulse, weakness, sweating, fever. • Shortness of breath. • Burning, numbness or tingling sensation. • Blurred vision, dizziness, fainting. • Fang marks, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea. 	<p>Severe:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swelling of tongue or throat. • Severe pain. • Rapid swelling and numbness. • Shock. • Pinpoint pupils. • Twitching/seizures. • Paralysis and unconsciousness. • Loss of muscle coordination.
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Treat all snakebites as poisonous until snake is positively identified.

- **Do NOT cut wound.**
- **Do NOT apply tourniquet**
- **Do NOT apply ice.**

ALL SNAKE BITES need medical evaluation. If you are going to be greater than 30 minutes from an emergency room, take a snake kit for outdoor trips.

- Immobilize the bitten extremity **BELOW** the level of the heart.
- Make person lie down, keep at complete rest, avoid activity (walking).
- Keep person warm and calm.
- Remove any restrictive clothing, rings and watches.
- Have someone call Poison Control (1-800-222-1222) for information about which medical centers in your area have the appropriate antivenom (if you believe snake is poisonous).

- Is snake poisonous or unknown?
- Is the person not breathing? (If yes, initiate CPR)

Call EMS/911

- Flush bite with large amount of water.
- Wash with soap and water.
- Cover with clean, cool compress or moist dressing.
- Monitor pulse, student's skin color and respirations; prepare to perform CPR, if needed.
- Identify snake-if dead, send with student to the hospital. Take pictures and/or note color or other features of the snake.
- Parent/guardian may transport student to the hospital for medical evaluation if condition is not life threatening.
- If you have Snake Bite Kit, use suction device repeatedly.

Contact responsible school authority & parent/guardian.
ENCOURAGE MEDICAL CARE.

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Document the care provided.