

Bite, Insect, Infected – Bee, Wasp, Hornet, and Ant

What is it?

- **Insect Bites**- usually not fatal, clean with an ointment containing antihistamine, an analgesic and a corticosteroid



Signs and Symptoms:

- **Anaphylaxis**- a life threatening allergic reaction in which the blood pressure falls and the airways close, occurs in less than 1% of the population, seizures may occur from isolated nerves becoming inflamed

Recommendations:

- **Stinger**- must be removed, scrap and do not pull or tweeze which injects more venom into the body
- **Reduce the Pain**- with an ice cube, a cream with antihistamine, an analgesic and a corticosteroid is helpful



Facts:

- **Tolerance**- 10 stings per pound of body weight, normal adults can withstand 1,000 stings, a child could die with 500 stings
- **Death**- can be a result of 1 sting if an anaphylactic reaction
- **Bee Stings**- 3 to 4 times more people die from bee stings than snake bites
 - **Africanized Killer Bee**- aggressive bee that has traveled from North America, causes a severe reaction, attack in swarms
- **Multiple Stings**- can cause heart malfunction and collapse of the circulatory system
- **Fire Ants**- 30 deaths have been attributed to these insect bites
 - Sting- pain, red and swollen, usually disappears in 45 minutes to 1 hour, a blister forms in 30 to 75 hours, rupturing and often becomes infected or a red, swollen, itchy patch with no blister



What can I do?

- **See your Health Care Provider**- antihistamine tablets, preloaded syringe of epinephrine