

Insect Bite - Level II

INSECT BITE

Level II

Skill Level: RN

Definition: Localized mild to severe reaction, or systemic reaction resulting from spider, insect or tick bite.

MODERATE	
<p>Subjective:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• "I got bit by something. It hurts."• "I got bit by a spider."	<p>Assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Impaired skin integrity. <p>Alteration in comfort, Spider or Insect Bite</p>
<p>Objective:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Local swelling and erythema.• Observe for skin sloughing or cellulitis.• Tick may be attached.• Increased local symptoms after four hours.	<p>Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide Level I treatment plan plus: <p>At nursing discretion may use any of the below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Check for allergies to medications.• Zyrtec 10mg daily/prn x 5 days.• If tick present, gently remove with tweezers. Ensure removal of tick head.• Patient to observe all bite sites for signs of infection.• Refer to superficial skin infection protocol and review with practitioner if infection present.• Check tetanus status.
SEVERE	
<p>Subjective:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• "I got bit by a spider. It hurts."• "I got bit by a tick."• "I am having trouble breathing."	<p>Assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Impaired skin integrity.• Alteration in comfort• Insect Bite• Ineffective breathing pattern.• Decreased cardiac output: fluid volume deficit.

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Objective: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Has increased respiratory effort.• Auscultation lungs shows wheezing, rhonchi, or decreased breath sounds.• B/P lower than usual, may be hypotensive. Pulse increased.• Nausea and vomiting may be present.• Hives (urticaria) may be present.• Facial swelling may be present.	Plan: <p>At nursing discretion may use any of the below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Depending on severity:<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Initiate anaphylaxis emergency protocol and/or Asthma emergency protocol. Emergency use of Epinephrine is probably indicated.-Prepare to transport to hospital if not improving.-Notify practitioner while waiting for transport.• Document allergy and date on medical record.
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Nursing Education:

1. If generalized facial swelling occur, it may be indicative of a potentially severe systemic reaction. Treat systemic allergic symptoms as a medical emergency.
2. Diffuse swelling without evidence of systemic symptoms does not necessarily indicate the probability of a serious systemic reaction.
3. Frequently, patients believe that they have a spider bite, when in fact they have a staph or other skin infection. When in doubt, use the skin infection protocol if the area looks infected.

APPROVED:

Health Services Manager

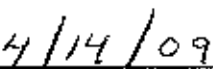
Date

Chief Medical Officer

Date



Medical Director



Date

Effective Date May 2009
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