

EL DORADO COUNTY EMS AGENCY

PREHOSPITAL PROTOCOLS

Effective: July 29, 2013

Reviewed: July 2021

Revised: May 2022

Scope: BLS/ALS –Adult/Pediatric

(please see signature on file)

EMS Agency Medical Director

BITES/STINGS/ENVENOMATION

ADULT/PEDIATRIC

PROTOCOL PROCEDURE: Flow of protocol presumes that the patient's condition is continuing. If patient is in severe distress, immediate, rapid transport is preferred with treatment performed en route.

Basic Life Support

EMT

ABCs / ROUTINE MEDICAL CARE –

- Assess airway and support ventilation with appropriate airway adjuncts as indicated.
- Apply oxygen if pulse oximetry <94% or signs of hypoperfusion or respiratory distress
- Identify cause. If feasible and safe to do so, take photos of the animal involved to relay to the receiving facility.

Bee/Wasp sting - Remove (scrape away) stinger. Cold packs may be applied to relieve pain. Monitor distal pulses.

Spider bite/Scorpion sting - Remove stinger. Cold packs may be applied to relieve pain. Monitor distal pulses.

Snake envenomation - Avoid movement of the affected extremity, keeping extremity at or below heart level. **DO NOT APPLY ICE.** Monitor distal pulses. Circle any swelling and/or discoloration around bite mark(s) with a pen and note time.

Advanced Life Support

Paramedic

MONITOR CARDIAC RHYTHM – Refer to appropriate cardiac protocol `prn.

VASCULAR ACCESS – Establish IV/IO

NORMAL SALINE - Rate as indicated.

FOR INDUCED ALLERGIES OR ANAPHYLAXIS - treat as per Allergic Reaction/Anaphylaxis protocol

CONSIDER PAIN MANAGEMENT – Refer to Pain Management protocol

- **Consider midazolam** for severe muscle spasm, especially with black widow bite.
 - o See Formulary - midazolam

CONTACT BASE - Advise nature of envenomation and determine destination and treatment.