

# Looking after a Child with a Bite or Sting

## Emergency Department Patient Information Leaflet



### Options available

If you'd like a large print, audio, Braille or a translated version of this leaflet then please call:

**01253 955588**

Our Four Values:

People Centred

Positive

Compassion

Excellence

# LOOKING AFTER A CHILD WITH A BITE OR STING

## Bee Stings

Bees leave their stings in and die soon afterwards. You can remove the sting by flicking it with a blunt object.

The sting can also be removed with a pair of tweezers but this should be done carefully as the sting may inject the poison if squeezed.

**Treatment** - Mix Bicarbonate of Soda (Sodium Bicarbonate) with water to form a paste and apply to the affected area. Give Paracetamol to ease the pain.

## Wasp Stings

Wasps do not leave their stings in.

**Treatment** - Soak a swab in Vinegar and apply to the affected area. Give Paracetamol to ease the pain.

## Animal Bites

Clean all bites thoroughly with any antiseptic you may have.

If the skin is broken then your child will need a particular antibiotic to prevent infection.

## **Mosquito Bites**

Try not to let your child scratch the bites - Calamine Lotion should help - but do not use on broken skin. If the bites bleed, then clean them and cover with a plaster in order to help prevent infection. Give Paracetamol if painful.

It should not be necessary for you to bring your child to hospital with stings unless he/she develops a swelling of the neck or mouth or has difficulty in breathing.

## **Is your child fully immunised against Tetanus?**

By 6 months old your child should be immunised against Tetanus (and others) and again before starting school at approximately 5 years. This will provide Tetanus cover until the next booster which is due at approximately 15 years.

If it has been 10 years since the last Tetanus booster, then one will be required within 72 hours of receiving the bite.

The Trust recognises the importance of multi agency working to safeguard children and young people.

If you are concerned about the welfare of a child or young person please contact Children's Social Care on:

**For children living in the Blackpool area:**

Monday – Friday 9.00am – 5.00pm

**Tel No: 01253 477299**

Out of hours and weekends

Tel No: 01253 477600

**For children living in Wyre, Fylde, Lancaster or Morecambe**

Monday – Friday 9.00am – 5.00pm

**Tel No: 08450 503 009**

Out of hours and weekends

**Tel No: 0845 602 1043**

**'Protecting Children is everybody's business'**



## Useful contact details

Main Switchboard: **01253 300000**

## Patient Relations Department

The Patient Relations Department offer impartial advice and deal with any concerns or complaints the Trust receives. You can contact them via:

Tel: **01253 955589**

email: **patient.relations@bfwh.nhs.uk**

You can also write to us at:

**Patient Relations Department, Blackpool  
Victoria Hospital, Whinney Heys Road,  
Blackpool FY3 8NR**

Further information is available on our  
website: **www.bfwh.nhs.uk**

## References

This leaflet is evidence based wherever the appropriate evidence is available, and represents an accumulation of expert opinion and professional interpretation.

Details of the references used in writing this leaflet are available on request from:

**Procedural Document and Leaflet  
Coordinator  
01253 953397**

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**[www.freeclaim.co.uk](http://www.freeclaim.co.uk)**

**Call 24 hrs for confidential advice after an accident and help on making a claim**

**0800 612 9156**