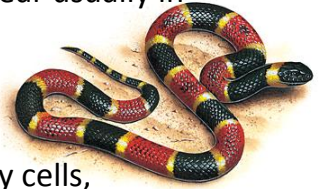


Bite, Insect, Infected – Snakes & Spiders

What is it?

- **Spider Bites**- almost all are poisonous, caused less than 3 deaths a year usually in children, 60 species in the United States



Signs and Symptoms:

- **Snake Venom**- damages tissue around the bites, changes in the body cells, damages blood vessels causing the, to leak, prevents blood from clotting, and these changes can cause kidney, heart and respiratory failure or internal bleeding
 - Coral Snake Venom- affects the nervous system
- **Pain**- mild to severe immediately after the venom is injected, rarely delays more than 30 minutes; redness, swelling, fang marks, tingling, numbness; metallic or rubbery taste, fever, chills, weakness, rapid or weak heartbeat, sweating, faintness, nausea and vomiting, headache, blurred vision, drooping eyelids, dry mouth, difficulty breathing, bruising of the skin, visual disturbances, increased saliva, difficulty swallowing
- **Black Widow**- sharp pain like a pinprick with a dual pain to follow, cramping pain, muscular weakness in the abdomen of the back, shoulders and chest, anxiety, sweating, restlessness, drooping and swelling of the eyelids, headaches, dizziness, severe breathing problems, itching or skin rash, nausea, vomiting, weakness, increased saliva production; place an ice cube on the bite to reduce pain
- **Brown Recluse**- little or no immediate pain, pain to bite area within the hour, bite area is red, bruised, itch over the whole body, area fills with blood and ruptures with an open sore with symptoms of nausea, vomiting, fatigue aches, sweats, fever, blood disorders and kidney failure may develop



Facts:

- **Poisonous Snakes**- Rattlesnakes, cottonmouths, copperheads, coral snakes, volubrids; more than 45,000 people are bitten yearly and about 15 people die yearly (children, elderly or untreated or treated inappropriately)

What can I do?

- **See your Health Care Provider**- immediately, blood tests, Sawyer's extractor- a device that suctions venom from the site, antivenin, tetanus booster, antibiotics;
 - If children or elderly contact the Poison Control Center; hospitalized, breathing treatments, muscle relaxants, hot bath, narcotic analgesics