

Bites and Stings

Follow-up Advice	Conditional referral to GP: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Refer to the GP if bite becomes larger in size and redness spreads Consider supply but advise patient to make an appointment with GP : <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Known allergy to bites or stings
Counselling Points	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Advise patient on side-effects caused by the drug(s).• Wash the area with soap and water• If there has been a wasp or bee sting the sting should be carefully removed from the skin, trying to scrape it out rather than grabbing it (to avoid squeezing venom into the skin)• Do not scratch the area, as this will make itch worse and increase risk of infection• Apply a cold compress to reduce swelling if present• Use of insect repellent products for future potential exposure• Bites from fleas, mites and bedbugs may be due to an infestation – source should be confirmed and eliminated