

Poisoning or Drug Overdose (Adult and Pediatric)

CFR AND ALL PROVIDER LEVELS

1. ABCs and vital signs.
2. Airway management, and appropriate oxygen therapy.
3. Assess for shock and treat, if appropriate (see the Shock / Sepsis (Adult), or Shock / Sepsis (Pediatric) protocol).
4. Document the name of the substance(s) involved, the amount taken, and the time and duration of exposure.
5. Contact Online Medical Control, if available.

6. Special Considerations:

a. Ingested Substance:

- i. Do not induce vomiting.
- ii. Do not attempt to neutralize the substance.

b. Inhaled Substance:

- i. Ensure that the scene is safe to enter.
- ii. Remove the patient from the contaminated environment.

c. Envenomation (Adult & Pediatric Patients):

Insect Stings	Snakebite
Remove the stinger by scraping with an index card or credit card. Cover with sterile dressing. Apply cold compress, if available.	Keep injection site lower than heart. Cover with sterile dressing. Immobilize the area and restrict patient activity.

d. Absorption:

- i. Take precautions to avoid contamination.
- ii. Remove all contaminated clothing.
- iii. Brush away any dry agents or blot away any excess liquids from the skin.
- iv. Flush the area with sterile saline, sterile water, or plain water for at least 20 minutes.
- v. Bandage any contact burns with a saline-moistened, sterile dressing.

● CFR STOP

EMT

7. Request ALS assistance for patients with respiratory distress/failure or altered mental status, or if so directed by Online Medical Control.
8. For altered mental status, see the Altered Mental Status (Adult and Pediatric) protocol.
9. Transport.
10. **Special Considerations:**
 - a. Inhaled Substance:**
 - i. Administer oxygen, especially if carbon monoxide is suspected.
 - b. Envenomation/Venomous Bites:**
 - i. Request ALS assistance, DO NOT delay transport. Refer immediately to the protocols as appropriate:
 1. Anaphylaxis (Adult)
 2. Anaphylaxis (Pediatric)

THE REGIONAL EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COUNCIL OF NEW YORK CITY PROTOCOLS

- 3. Respiratory Distress / Failure / Acute Pulmonary Edema (Adult)
- 4. Respiratory Distress / Failure / Arrest (Pediatric)
- 5. Shock / Sepsis (Adult)
- 6. Shock / Sepsis (Pediatric)
- ii. Move the patient to the ambulance with minimal patient movement, i.e. on a stretcher or wheeled stair chair.
- iii. Do not attempt to capture the envenoming animal (snake, scorpion, spider, etc.), nor remove the venom with suction devices.

Marine	Snakebite
Remove stinging bristles by patting the area with adhesive tape, then wipe with alcohol. Remove stinging spine. Cover with sterile dressing. Transport should not be delayed for this treatment.	If the venomous bite occurred on an extremity immobilize the extremity. Transport to Venomous Bite Center (See Appendix H).

● EMT STOP

Paramedic

● Paramedic STOP

Key Points / Considerations

- 1. Be careful and aware of off gassing.