



First aid fact sheet

Dog bite

See fact sheets on:

- severe bleeding
- shock

Signs of wound infection

- increased pain and soreness of the wound or wound area
- increased temperature (warmth) around the wound area
- increased swelling and redness of the wound and surrounding area
- pus oozing from the wound
- fever (if the infection persists)
- swelling and tenderness of the lymph glands
- tracking or red streaks leading away from the wound.

What to do

- 1 Follow DRSABCD.
- 2 Wash and clean the wound with soap and water.
- 3 Apply a sterile dressing.
- 4 Monitor for signs of infection.
- 5 Seek medical aid if necessary.

If the bite has resulted in a severely bleeding wound:

- 1 Follow DRSABCD. Call **Triple Zero (000)** for an ambulance.
- 2 Apply gloves if available. Remove or cut the patient's clothing to expose the wound.
- 3 Apply firm, direct and continuous pressure on the bleeding wound – initially with your hands until the bleeding stops. The patient or a bystander can do this.
- 4 Apply a pad or dressing in or directly over the wound and apply firm, direct and continuous pressure until the bleeding stops.
- 5 Once bleeding is controlled secure the pad by bandaging firmly, ensuring the pad remains directly over the wound. Observe for any further bleeding.
- 6 Manage the patient for shock. Do not give the patient anything to eat or drink.
- 7 Continue to monitor the patient whilst waiting for medical aid.

In a medical emergency call Triple Zero (000)

DRSABCD Danger ► Response ► Send for help ► Airway ► Breathing ► CPR ► Defibrillation

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