



BEE & WASP STINGS: What to do?

Most Bees have only one stinging barb that is left in the skin following the incident. The venom sac is attached to the barb and continues to inject venom until it is empty. For this reason, the barb should be removed as soon as possible.



Some Australian Native Bees and Wasps do not leave a detached barb in the skin but inflict multiple stings, thus increasing the amount of venom injected. Follow the steps below:



1. Remove any bee sting by sliding or scraping your fingernail across it, rather than pulling at it.

2. Wash the area and apply ice to reduce the swelling (elevate where the sting is if possible).



3. Observe the patient closely for any change in condition.

If **any** of the warning signs of an allergic reaction appear, call 000 for an ambulance and assistance urgently.

The warning signs include:

- a fine rash over the trunk
- wheezing or coughing
- swelling around the face, eyes and neck



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