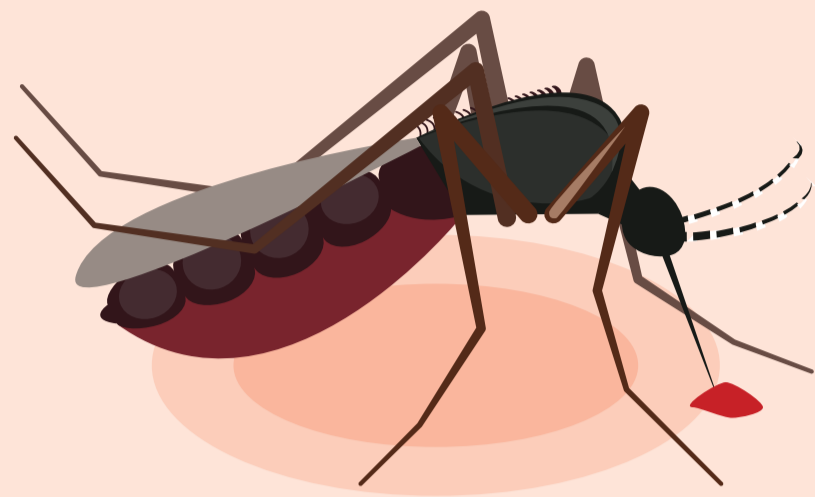


Australian insects: biters guide

Biters

Biters use their mouths to suck blood. They can infect you with diseases.



Stingers

Stingers inject you with venom, which can trigger an allergic reaction.



Dial triple zero (000) and ask for an ambulance if you suspect that either you or someone else is having a severe allergic reaction



Mosquitoes



Mosquito before feeding



Mosquito after feeding



Key facts

- Diseases can be passed on to people through mosquito bites.

- You can protect yourself against mosquitoes biting you.



Mosquito-borne diseases acquired in Australia



Ross River virus



Dengue



Barmah Forest virus



Murray Valley encephalitis



Mosquito bite prevention DOs and DON'Ts



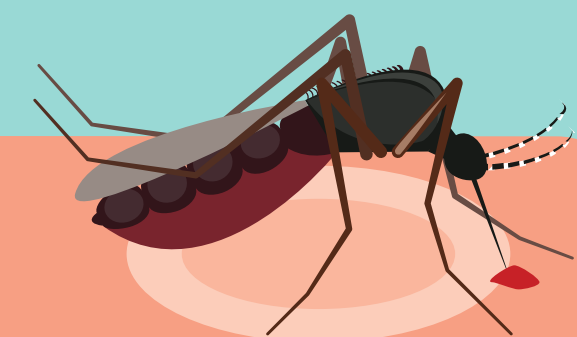
DOs

- **Do** use repellents outdoors and insecticides indoors
- **Do** screen windows, doorways and tents, if camping
- **Do** wear long pants and long-sleeved shirts



DON'Ts

- **Don't** create mosquito breeding opportunities at home (standing water)
- **Don't** go to wetlands at dawn or dusk
- **Don't** think you don't attract mosquitoes



Symptoms and treatment

Type of reaction



Local reaction



Severe allergic reaction



Key facts

Most people will have a local reaction after being stung or bitten.

People at risk are advised to have a personal action plan to manage a severe allergic reaction.



Symptoms



Burning pain



Skin swelling



Redness



Itching



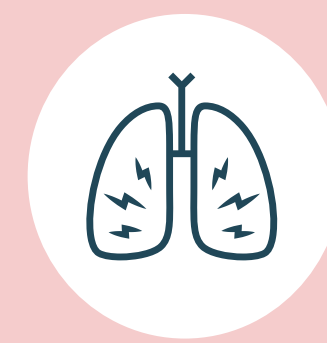
Flushing



Collapsing



Coughing or wheezing



Difficulty breathing, talking or swallowing



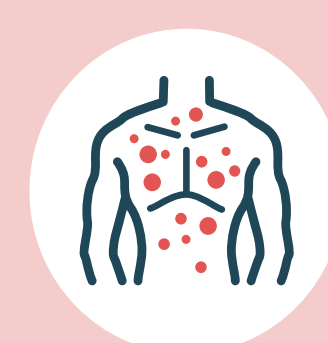
Stomach cramps



Swelling of the mouth, throat or tongue



Itching around the eyes, ears, lips, throat or mouth



A rash that may appear anywhere on the body

Have you been bitten or stung?



healthdirect's Symptom Checker can help you decide what to do next

healthdirect.gov.au/symptom-checker



Treatments



Clean stung area



Apply ice pack



Take a painkiller



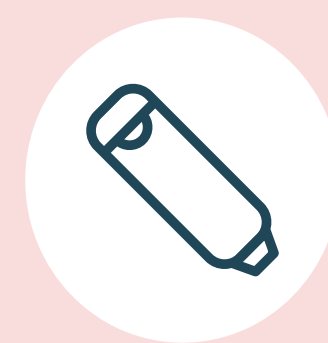
Antihistamine tablets



Call triple zero (000)



Personal action plan



Administer adrenaline via an autoinjector