

healthdirect

Australian insects: biters guide

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Stingers

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

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



Biters

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

Common biters

Mosquitoes





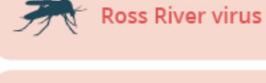


- Diseases can be passed on to people through mosquito bites.
- You can protect yourself against mosquitoes biting you.



Mosquito-borne diseases acquired in Australia







Murray Valley encephalitis



Barmah Forest



Dengue



Mosquito

after feeding





sleeved shirts

· Do wear long pants and long-

· Do use repellents outdoors and

Do screen windows, doorways and

insecticides indoors

tents, if camping

- 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

DON'Ts

Symptoms and treatments

Type of reaction



Local reaction

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



Severe allergic reaction

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

Symptoms









Itching

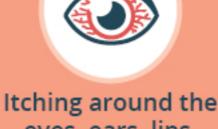
Flushing





breathing, talking or swallowing



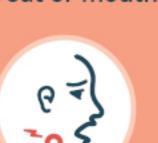


eyes, ears, lips, throat or mouth



appear anywhere

on the body





Have you been bitten or stung?

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

www.healthdirect.gov.au/symptom-checker







Treatments

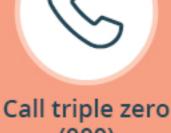






Antihistamine

tablets



(000)



Personal

action plan





Administer adrenaline via an autoinjector or EpiPen



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