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## factsheet

# Hot Water and Spine or Tentacle Removal

## Hot Water and Spine or Tentacle Removal Technique

### What and Why is it Done?

This pain-relieving technique combines spine or tentacle removal with hot water immersion.

Use this technique for the following venomous stings –



Stingray wounds are potentially dangerous because they happen quickly and may result in great blood loss. Note that wounds to the trunk/chest or abdomen are a medical emergency.

See specific instructions for Stingray Wounds

Bites and stings can be dangerous for those people with allergies, especially life-threatening general reactions (called anaphylaxis). Almost as many people die of venom allergy in Australia as from snakebite.

See specific instructions for the Allergic Reactions technique

### How is it Done?

**1** Remove any spines or tentacles (do not remove stingray barbs from the trunk or abdomen – this must be done in hospital only).

**2** Bathe the wound with hot water (no hotter than 45°C) to relieve pain.

The other unaffected limb should be comfortable in this water – test it on yourself first to avoid causing a burn.

**3** Seek medical help as soon as possible.