

FIRST AID FACT SHEET

Non-Tropical Jellyfish Stings

Many species of jellyfish such as the Bluebottle occur in non-tropical Australian coastal waters. Stings from these jellyfish can cause immediate pain and allergic reactions.

Caused by

- + Venom injected on contact with skin through nematocyst tubules on the tentacles.

Signs & symptoms

- + Immediate pain ranging from mild irritation to intense, sharp or burning pain.
- + Whip like marks, raised welts and redness on the skin.
- + Muscle aches and cramps.
- + Nausea.
- + Vomiting.

What to do

1. Follow DRSABCD St John Action Plan.
2. Rest and reassure the casualty.
3. Prevent the casualty from rubbing stung area.
4. Monitor the casualty constantly.
5. Douse affected area with seawater, **DO NOT** use freshwater.
6. Pick off any remaining tentacles with fingers taking care not to get stung yourself.
7. If possible place the stung area in hot water (no hotter than the first aider can tolerate).
8. Medical aid if required.



In a medical emergency
call **Triple Zero (000)**

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Information provided is as per Australian Resuscitation Council Guidelines. These first aid protocols are for the Australian market only. All care has been taken in preparing this information but St John takes no responsibility for its use. This information is not a substitute for practical first aid training with St John.