

# SUN AND INSECT SAFETY



#### **RISK OF SUN EXPOSURE**

# 

Sunburn



## Heat stroke Dehydration

A sunburn is superficial skin damage that occurs when unprotected skin is exposed to the sun's ultraviolet (UV) rays. Predisposes to skin cancer.

### **SIGNS & SYMPTOMS**

Sunburn: Redness or pink painful skin that is hot to touch. Seek medical attention if blisters develop! Heat stroke: Headache, fever, fatigue, moist skin. Dehydration: Stomach/leg aches, fatigue, decreased voids, light-headedness.

#### TREATMENT

- Stay inside or in shade, hydrate, remove excess clothing, fan your child.
- If painful, may apply cold compress or have child take cool (not cold) bath.
- Apply aloe containing gel to affected skin.
- Topical corticosteroids can reduce swelling.

# **RISKS OF INSECT BITES**

- Certain insects' bites (e.g. mosquitoes and ticks) carry diseases.
- Insect bites can also cause swelling, redness, pain, itching and rarely anaphylaxis.

### TREATMENT

- Symptomatic topical treatment with cold compresses, ice, and aloe are effective.
- Use oral non-sedating antihistamines, like cetirizine, for itch.
- Consider prophylaxis with anti-malarials when travelling to mosquito-endemic areas.
- Recognize ANAPHYLAXIS
  Most common bees and wasps.
  Administer EpiPen
  and call 911.

Rapid onset, potentially life threatening, systemic hypersensitivity reaction



# Avoid sun from 11am to 3pm.

Encourage children to play in shade, under an umbrella or indoors during these hours.

Seek



Dress children in sunprotective clothing including wide brim hats and long sleeves.

Slap



Children > 6 months should wear SPF 30+ sunscreen (with UVA and UVB protection). Reapply often especially when swimming or sweating.



Sunglasses with ultraviolet protection prevent sun damage to children's eyes.

# THE DEETAILS OF PREVENTION

- Avoid areas where insects breed and live, including standing water.
- Wear light-coloured, long clothing and closed shoes. Tuck shirts into pants and pants into socks.
- Apply icaridin- or DEET-containing insect repellent to clothing and exposed skin.

	Age	How much DEET?	Icaridin?
	< 6mos	NONE	NONE
	6mos - 2y	10% once daily	Up to 20%
	2- 12y	10% TID	Up to 20%
	> 12y	Up to 30% DEET	Up to 20%

 Apply sunscreen first, then insect repellent 30 minutes later. Do not combine.

### July 2023

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