



# Scorpion Sting Emergency Protocol

Using the Venomosity Rule of Thumb, the initial pain experienced by the patient, and the factors that influence the severity of a scorpion sting, we can predict the severity of future symptoms.

To better understand the expected severity of scorpion envenomation, remember: Scorpions with small pincers and a thick tail are more venomous than scorpions with large pincers and a thin tail.

Use your VenomWorks Identikit to make a positive identification

## Venomosity Rule of Thumb

### Highly Venomous



Thick tail, thin pincers. Intense pain at sting site. May be life threatening. Expect Class 2 and 3 Symptoms.

### Mildly Venomous



Medium tail, medium pincers. Wasp sting-like symptoms causing localised pain. Expect Class 1 and 2 Symptoms.

### Weakly Venomous



Thin tail, thick pincers. Pin prick-like symptoms with itching. Expect Class 1 Symptoms.

## First Aid Techniques

### Class 1 and 2 Scorpion Envenomation

- Calm the patient.
- Alert security or safety officer, arrange for transportation.
- Make the patient comfortable.
- Transport the patient to professional medical assistance.

### Class 3 Scorpion Envenomation

- Calm the patient.
- Alert security or safety officer, arrange for transportation.
- Closely monitor vital signs.
- Transport the patient to professional medical assistance.
- Antivenom may be required.

For assistance with scorpion stings, contact the Poison Information Helpline on +27(0)21 931-6129.



For further information or training, contact the VenomWorks team on [info@venomworks.com](mailto:info@venomworks.com)