Human Bite Wound

Human bite wounds tend to become infected, even when they seem minor at first. Bite wounds of the hand can be a big problem as the tendons and joints are close to the skin. Infection can develop very rapidly, even in a matter of hours. Admission to the hospital for IV antibiotics and surgery may sometimes be needed.

Keep the wounded area rested and elevated above the level of your heart for the next 3 days. Take all your medicine if you have been given an antibiotic. **If a bulky dressing or splint has been applied to protect and immobilize the wound area, do not remove it unless your caregiver approves**.

You should be checked by your doctor within 1-2 days.

SEEK IMMEDIATE MEDICAL CARE IF YOU DEVELOP:

- Increased pain, swelling, or redness around the bite wound.
- Chills or fever.
- Pus drainage from the wound or red streaks which travel from the area of the wound.
- Pain with movement or trouble moving the injured part.
- If you are not improving or are getting worse.
- If you have any other questions or concerns.

You will need a tetanus booster if you have not had one in the last 5 years.

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