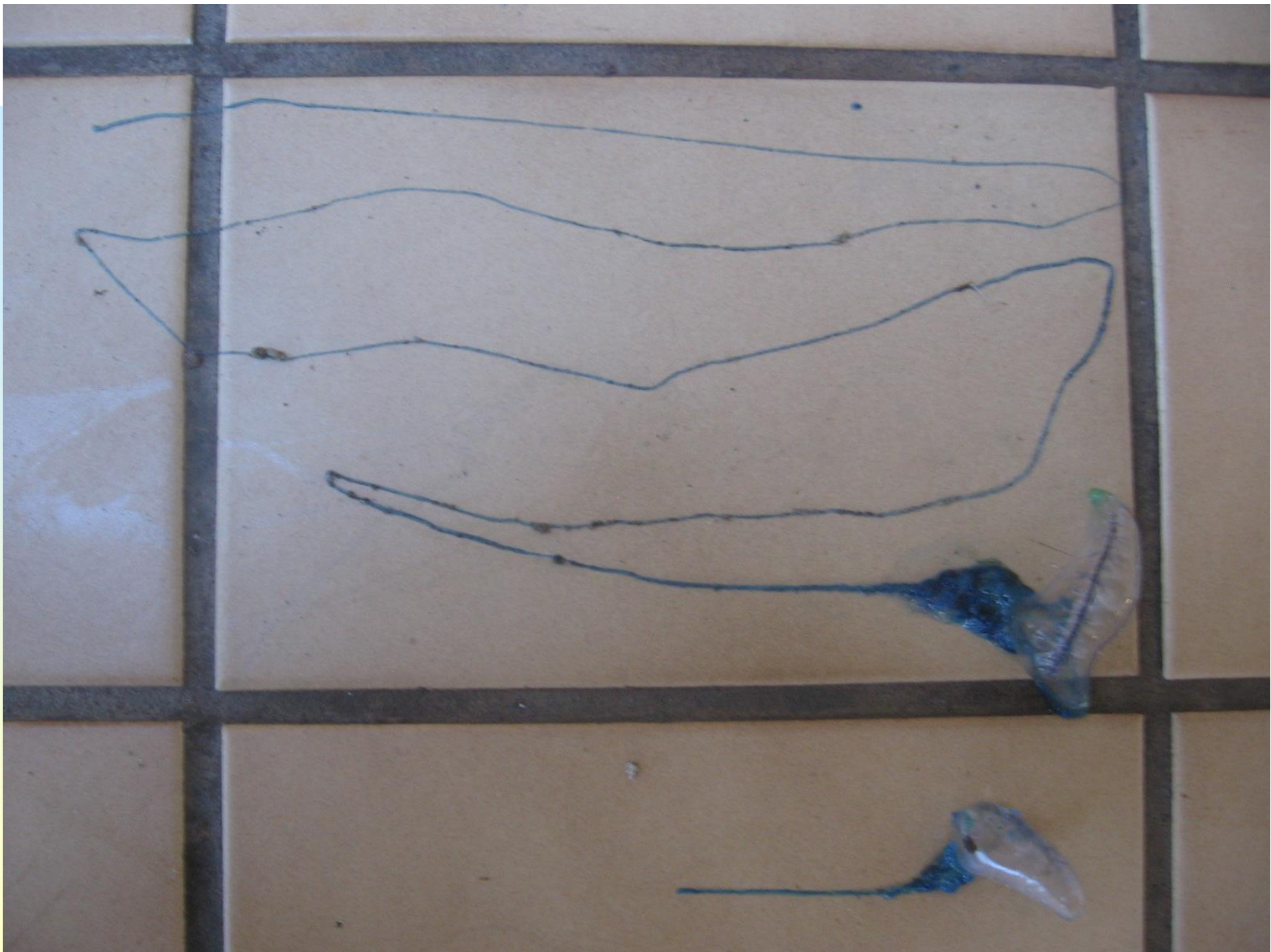


“Blue bottle stings”

Dr.P.T.Kenny.





Die steek van 'n bloublasie

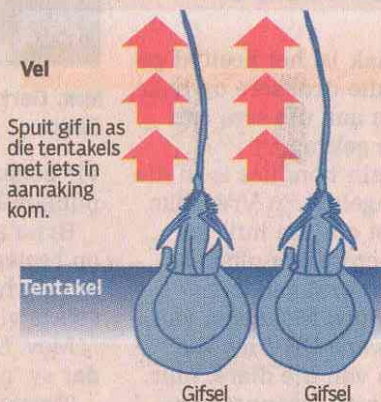
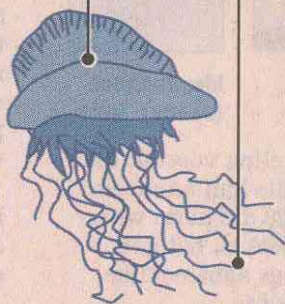


Deurskynende blou, peervormige drywende deel.

Blou tentakels hang onder die drywende deel.

Die drywende deel is tussen 2 cm en 15 cm lank en die tentakels kan tot 10m lank wees.

Wat gebeur as 'n bloublasie jou steek?



Wat om te doen as 'n bloublasie jou steek

- 1 Spoel af**
 - Seewater of asyn
 - Nie varswater nie
- 2 Skraap gifselle af**
 - Gebruik iets skerp, soos kredietkaart.
 - Nie sand nie
- 3 Hou ledemaat in warm water**
 - Dit breek die gifstowwe vinniger af.



Bronne: ZoomSchool.com; Dr. Gerbus Muller Foto: Jeff Wright

MORNÉ SCHAAP, Grafika24

Bloublasie: Allergie lei moontlik tot dood

Malani Venter

Stellenbosch. – 'n Bloublasie se steek is 95% van die tyd nie 'n probleem vir sy menslike slagoffer nie en 'n dokter se hulp is gewoonlik nie nodig nie.

Só het dr. Gerbus Muller van die Tygerberg-hospitaal se gif-inligtingsentrum gister gesê.

Navraag is by Muller gedoen nadat mnr. Roland Singh (58) van Athlone Sondag by die Strand dood is, vermoedelik weens bloublasiesteke.

Mnr. Wilfred Solomons-Johannes, Kaapstad se rampbestuurwoordvoerder, het gesê daar word vermoed dat Singh 'n erge allergiese reaksie ontwikkel het toe hy glo deur 'n hele paar bloublasies in die see gestee is.

Muller het gesê dis die eerste keer in die 35 jaar sedert hy toksologie as beroep beoefen dat hy van só 'n sterfgeval in Suid-Afrika hoor.

“Die gif word deur netelselle op die tentakels vrygelaat. Wanneer die selle kontak maak met die vel, ontplof dit en word dit in die vel ingeskiet. Dit veroorsaak gewoonlik 'n branderigheid, die vel word

rooi en jeuk en soms word klein blasies gevorm.

“In uitsonderlike gevalle, soos wanneer iemand vir die gif allergies is en genoeg gif vrygestel word, kan dit die kardiovaskulêre stelsel (hart- en longfunksies) beïnvloed, dermate dat die persoon kan sterf. Maar ek het dit nog nie in Suider-Afrika teëgekome nie.”

Seewater is die beste teenmiddel. Die wond moet dadelik daarmee afgespoel word. “Moenie vars water of sand gebruik nie en moet ook nie die oorblywende selle afvryf nie – dit vererger die situasie net.

“Gebruik seewater of asyn om die wond te spoel en skraap die bloublasie se oorblywende dele met iets soos die skerp kant 'n kredietkaart af,” het hy gesê.

Daarna moet die wond in warm water gehou word. “Die gif is hitte-labiel, wat beteken hitte breek die gifstowwe vinniger af. Die deel van die ledemaat wat gestee is, moet vir 'n halfuur in 'n warm bad of stort gehou word.”

Die ongemak van die steek kan 'n paar uur lank duur.

Die gifinligtingsentrum kan by ☎ 021 931 6129 gekontak word.

“Blue bottle” stings.

- A blue bottle sting may cause anaphylaxis!!! Always remember to apply the “ABC” of emergency care.

- **Various symptomatic treatment options exist for example:**

Irrigated the sting with sea water, as freshwater or rubbing may cause nematocysts to discharge.

Rinse the affected area well with white vinegar (= acetic acid). It works within 30 seconds.

Stingose® = 20% aluminium sulphate solution, is available as an aerosol spray.

‘Meat tenderizer’ (contains the enzyme papain) sprinkled onto the affected area is also effective to denature the proteins of the blue bottle sticking to the skin.

The leaves of a succulent which usually grows on the dunes (‘hottentotsvy’ or sour fig) can be crushed and the juice applied to the affected area.





Venomous Marine Animals.

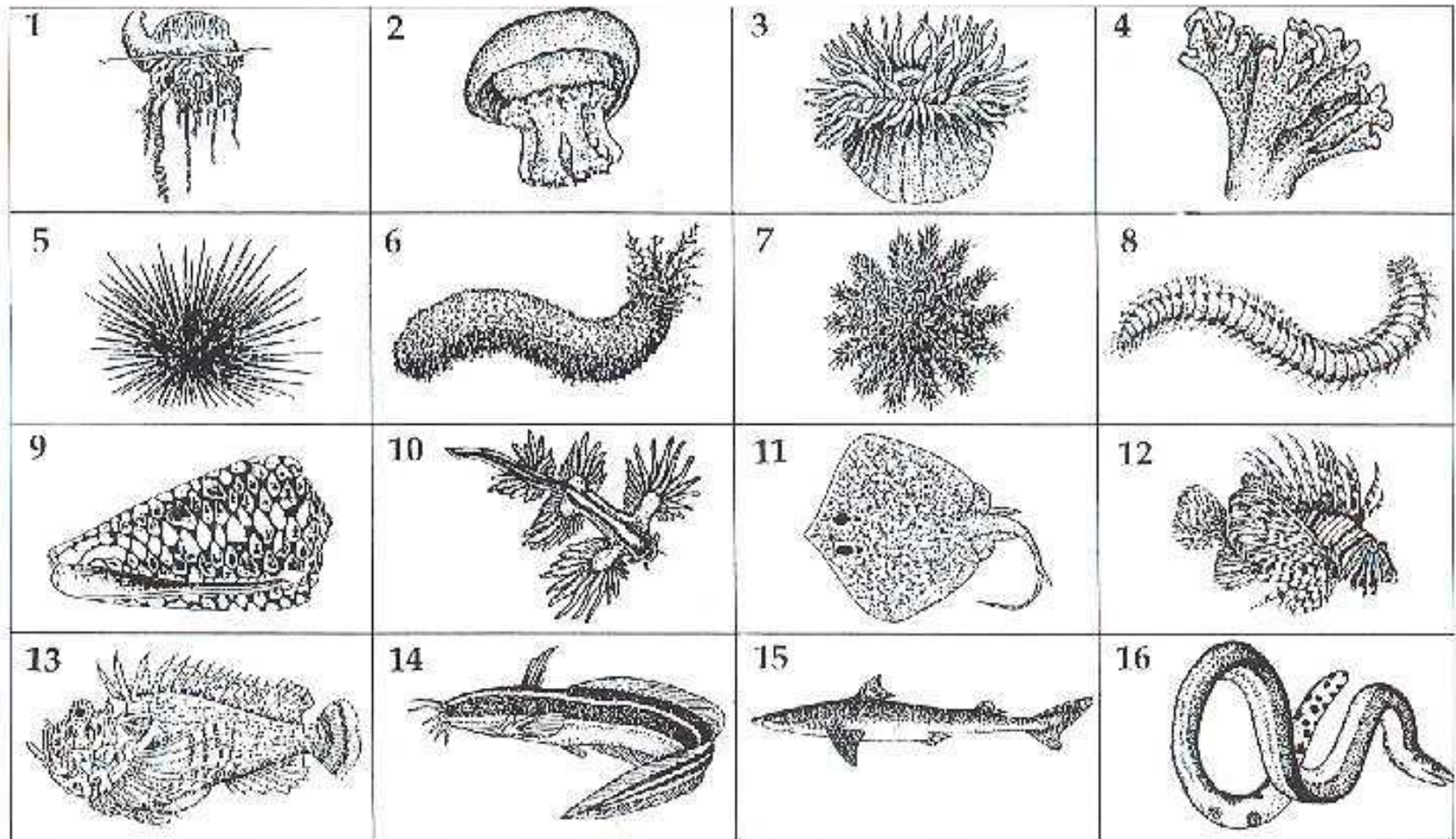


Figure 1 Some venomous marine animals found in South Africa

1 = Bluebottle, 2 = Jellyfish, 3 = Sea anemone, 4 = Fire coral, 5 = Needle urchin, 6 = Sea cucumber, 7 = Crown of thorns starfish, 8 = Bristle worm, 9 = Cone shell, 10 = Sea swallow, 11 = Stingray, 12 = Devilfish (Pterosis), 13 = Stonefish, 14 = Calfish, 15 = Dogfish, 16 = Pelamis platurus sea snake

Venom chemistry

- Venoms contain proteins, lipids, steroids, amines, quinines, aminopolysaccharides, neurotransmitters, proteolytic enzymes, etc. and are capable of causing many effects.
- Elapid venom is the least complex, while pit vipers have the most complex venoms. Elapid venoms have higher concentrations of esterases, such as acetylcholinesterase, while viper venoms have higher concentrations of endopeptidases.
- This difference is important because it helps understand why elapid venom exerts effects on the nervous system while viper venom is mainly a somatic toxin.
- Venoms, in general, are heat-labile.

Management of Marine “injuries”

- **Injuries may be due to bites, stings or direct contact.**
- Because of the unique seawater milieu, secondary infections with marine microbes, e.g. *Vibrio* species, *Aeromonas*, *Pseudomonas* and *Mycobacterium marinum*, are often resistant to common antibiotics and require salinated media for culture.
- **Apply the ABC... of Emergency Care.**
- Where applicable, immediately irrigate the “wound” with saltwater until the affected part can be immersed in hot water (**45 – 50 degrees C**) for 30 to 90 minutes, or until the pain is relieved.
- Infra-red heat from a lamp also offers relief.
- No tourniquets!!
- Local infiltration with Lignocaine (without adrenaline.)
- Wounds should be left open and not sutured, if possible.
- Tetanus toxoid should be given in case of wounds.
- Consider antibiotics.

