

# A DOG BITE, AN UNCOMMON WOUND IN AN ONCOLOGY CENTRE TREATED WITH AN ENZYME ALGINOGEL®

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## INTRODUCTION

A dog's teeth and jaw are designed to crush and tear apart their prey. The resulting wounds are characterized by crushing, lacerations and abrasions. A dog bite wound is often deep and always contaminated. Taking care of a dog bite therefore requires a multidisciplinary approach, focusing on the risk of infection.

## TREATMENT

Support begins with a complete anamnesis: background, history (splenectomy, cirrhosis, immunosuppression), allergies, vaccination status, circumstances and time of occurrence, associated injuries, type of dog and its vaccination status. Next, a clinical examination completes the initial assessment: vascular and neurological status, bone and tendon assessment and the presence of foreign objects.

## RESULTS

There is little scientific basis for the treatment of bites. The treatment is based on expert recommendations. Antibiotic prophylaxis – Immunization: tetanus and possibly rabies prophylaxis – Local care: abundant rinsing with running water or saline solution – Cleaning and removal of foreign bodies (teeth) – Debridement of non vital tissue with an enzyme alginogel® – Healing by secondary intention if possible – Elevation of the limbs – Microbiological smear only in case of clinical signs – Close supervision during the first days.



## CONCLUSION

Taking care of a patient with a bite requires a multidisciplinary approach and special vigilance with regard to infection. By applying proper care and an enzyme alginogel®, we obtained complete healing after 6 weeks of care and an acceptable functional and aesthetic result for the patient.