SCORPION VENOMS AND THEIR EFFECTS

Scorpions use their sting for a number of reasons, including prey capture and mating, but also as a defensive mechanism, enabling them to stay unnoticed much longer than their predators. Nearly all scorpion venoms are complex mixtures of proteins which affect the victim’s nervous system and other substances. Each species of scorpion has a unique venom. Not all scorpions have venom; the bite of the scorpion is painful enough to considered dangerous to humans.

The severity of the envenomation depends on which kind of venom is injected, depending on various factors such as the health and age of the victim, the sting site, and species, as well as size and degree of swelling of the injection site. The only effective treatment for a life-threatening scorpion sting is a geographic- or species-specific antivenin, administered in a medical facility by trained medical personnel.

Most scorpions have a neurotoxic venom which produces severe pain and swelling at the site of the sting. If the victim is allergic to a bee and wasp stings these symptoms can be more intense. Some patients experience difficulty breathing, muscle twitching or convulsions, and death may occur due to heart or respiratory failure. If stung, always seek medical attention immediately.

Hemopoietic toxins have a highly cytotoxic venom, which can cause serious wounds and hemorrhage. These wounds are slow and difficult to heal. He among-ants searches for sting victims of H. opisthodurus.

SOLPUGIDS AND THEIR EFFECTS

Solpugids use their bite for a number of reasons including prey capture and mating, but also as a defensive mechanism, enabling them to stay unnoticed much longer than their predators. Nearly all solpugid venoms are complex mixtures of proteins which affect the victim’s nervous system and other substances. Each species of solpugid has a unique venom. Not all solpugids have venom; the bite of the solpugid is painful enough to considered dangerous to humans.

The severity of the envenomation depends on which kind of venom is injected, depending on various factors such as the health and age of the victim, the sting site, and species, as well as size and degree of swelling of the injection site. The only effective treatment for a life-threatening solpugid sting is a geographic- or species-specific antivenin, administered in a medical facility by trained medical personnel.

Most solpugids have a neurotoxic venom which produces severe pain and swelling at the site of the sting. If the victim is allergic to a bee and wasp stings these symptoms can be more intense. Some patients experience difficulty breathing, muscle twitching or convulsions, and death may occur due to heart or respiratory failure. If stung, always seek medical attention immediately.

Hemopoietic toxins have a highly cytotoxic venom, which can cause serious wounds and hemorrhage. These wounds are slow and difficult to heal. He among-ants searches for sting victims of H. opisthodurus.