

## First Aid Training Provider Urges Preparedness for Life-Threatening Encounters with Potentially Deadly Creatures

In recent months, alarming incidents involving blue-ringed octopuses have occurred, highlighting the importance of awareness and preparedness.

BRISBANE, QUEENSLAND, AUSTRALIA, April 18, 2024 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Managing Director of My First Aid Course Brisbane, Mal Thompson, is urging caution for those enjoying Australia's outdoor wonders after several close encounters with deadly sea creatures. In recent months, alarming incidents involving blueringed octopuses have occurred,



Blue Ring Octopus

highlighting the importance of awareness and preparedness. One incident involved a young child who unknowingly picked up the lethal creature at a Sydney swimming spot, while another child discovered a seemingly innocuous shell while snorkelling, only to find it harbouring a hidden danger: a blue-ringed octopus. These incidents underscore the need for vigilance and knowledge when engaging in outdoor activities..

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Malcom Thompson, My First Aid Course Blue-ringed octopuses are highly venomous, with sufficient toxin to paralyse and kill an adult within minutes, and there is currently no anti-venom available. Additionally, cone snails, found in subtropical and tropical waters, possess venom potent enough to be fatal to humans.

Thompson emphasises the importance of proper first aid techniques in the event of a blue-ringed octopus or cone snail bite, advocating for the Pressure Immobilization Technique (PIT), which is also recommended for bites from funnel-web spiders and all snake bites. "While snakebite

<u>fatalities are rare</u>, efficient first aid and prompt medical attention is crucial, as evidenced by a tragic incident in which a <u>North Queensland man</u> succumbed to a snake bite due to apparent delays in first aid intervention", Thompson stated.

Thompson highlights the persistence of outdated techniques, confusion, and myths surrounding first aid practices, with occasional reports of inappropriate methods such as tourniquet use or wound washing. Clarifying misconceptions, Thompson explains the importance of PIT in delaying systemic toxicity and buying time until medical assistance can be obtained.

"The recent encounters with these dangerous creatures serve as a timely reminder for all Australians enjoying outdoor activities to maintain current first aid knowledge", asserts Thompson.

For those seeking further information or wishing to book <u>first aid training</u> courses provided by My First Aid Course in Brisbane, please visit their website.

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