

General Principles:

- debride
- irrigate
- assess for Tetanus toxoid/Rabies PEP
- hand wounds – consider referral to Plastic Surgeon if joint/tendon involvement

Human Bites:

- No visible infection – Clavulin 500 mg po tid x 3-5 days
or 875 mg po bid x 3-5 days
- Clearly infected – Cefazolin 1-2 g q8h +
Metronidazole 500 mg po bid
or
Ceftriaxone 1 g IV q24 h +
Metronidazole 500 mg po bid
 - If over joint (clenched-fist injury)
 - Consider Plastics assessment for joint/tendon involvement
- For Penicillin allergy
 - Clindamycin IV or po

Cat/Dog Bites

No visible infection:

- Clavulin 500 mg po tid x 3-5 days
or 875 mg po bid x 3-5 days

Infected (Duration 5-10 days)

- Ceftriaxone 1 g IV q24h +/-
Metronidazole 500 mg po bid,
oral stepdown to Clavulin 500 mg po tid
or 875 mg po bid

For Penicillin allergy

- Cipro 500 mg po bid +
Clindamycin 300 mg po qid
- Vancomycin 1 g IV q12h +
Cipro 500 mg po bid +
Metronidazole 500 mg po bid

Complications:

- septic arthritis
- abscess
- tenosynovitis
- osteomyelitis

Reference:

Adapted from: 2005 IDSA Guidelines for Skin and Soft -Tissue Infections; Stevens, D., Bisno, H., Chambers H., Everett, D., Dellinger, P., Goldstein, E., Gorbach, S., Hirschmann, J., Kaplan, E., Montoya, G., and Wade, J. Practice Guidelines for the Diagnosis and Management of Skin and Soft – Tissue Infections, CID 2005:41 (15 November): 1373 – 1406.

And Division of Infectious Diseases clinical expert recommendations.