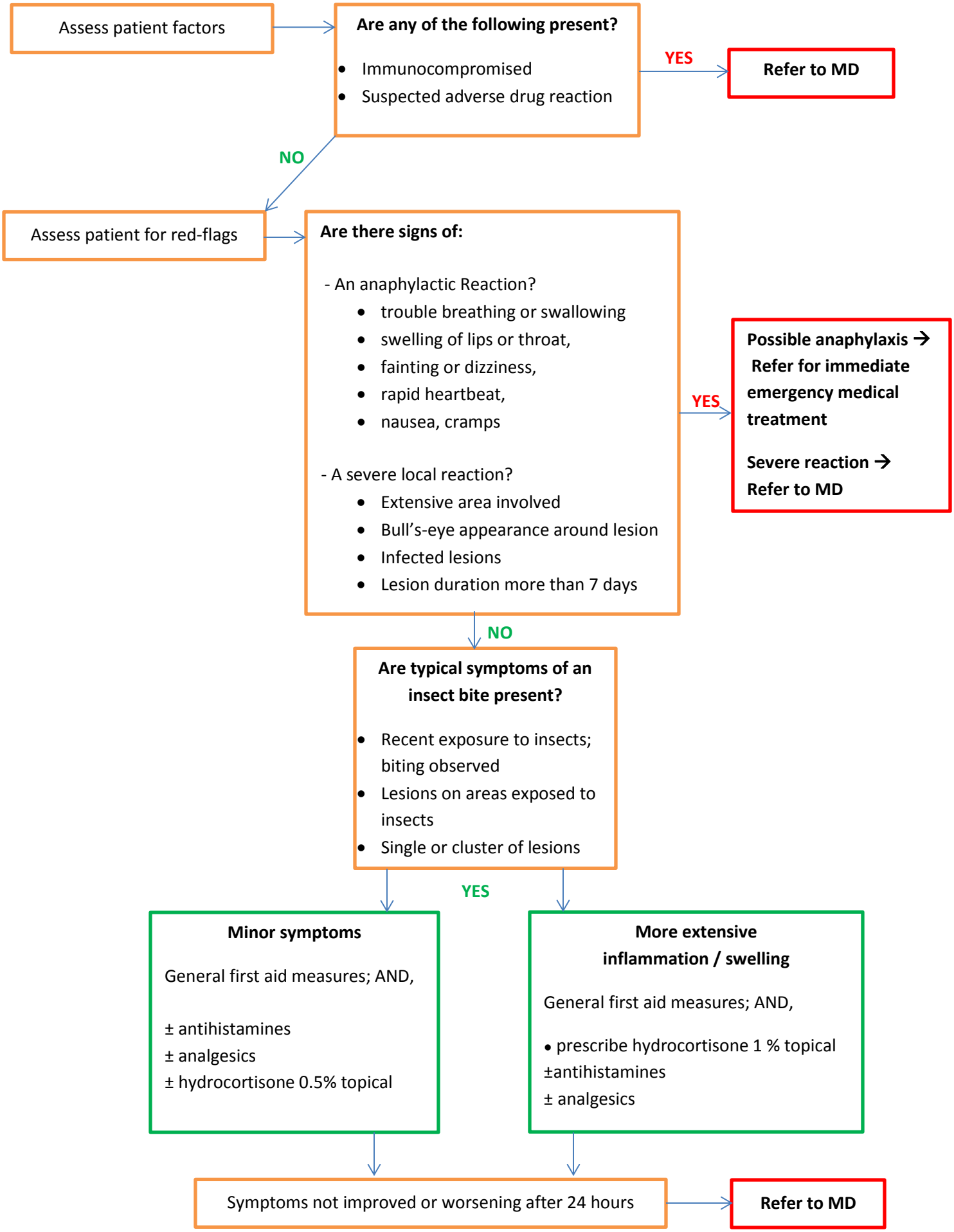
INSECT BITE


Assess patient factors
Are any of the following present?
• Immunocompromised
• Suspected adverse drug reaction
YES
Refer to MD
NO
Assess patient for red-flags
Are there signs of:
- An anaphylactic Reaction?
• trouble breathing or swallowing
• swelling of lips or throat,
• fainting or dizziness,
• rapid heartbeat,
• nausea, cramps
- A severe local reaction?
• Extensive area involved
• Bull's-eye appearance around lesion
• Infected lesions
• Lesion duration more than 7 days
YES
Possible anaphylaxis → Refer for immediate emergency medical treatment
Severe reaction → Refer to MD
NO
Are typical symptoms of an insect bite present?
• Recent exposure to insects; biting observed
• Lesions on areas exposed to insects
• Single or cluster of lesions
YES
Minor symptoms
General first aid measures; AND,
± antihistamines
± analgesics
± hydrocortisone 0.5% topical
More extensive inflammation / swelling
General first aid measures; AND,
• prescribe hydrocortisone 1 % topical
±antihistamines
± analgesics
Symptoms not improved or worsening after 24 hours
Refer to MD