

Bug Bites

In some people, a simple bite by a mosquito or other insect, can cause a large inflamed area. This can be a sensitivity to insect bites, but usually is not an allergy. If an area surrounding a mosquito bite becomes enlarged in less than a day and warm and swollen, most likely it is not infected. Bacterial infections usually take at least 48 hrs to show signs of infection, and when you press on the area these infections are usually painful, whereas bug bites are not.

If a bug bite becomes swollen, it is best to use cool compresses, an antihistamine such as Benadryl, and some ibuprofen such as Motrin. The swelling may persist for several days, but if the area becomes painful or if you see pus or red streaking, your child should be seen by a physician.