

## Irukandji jellyfish (Carukia barnesi), The most dangerous Jellyfish

Jellyfish is a venomous water creature that has long tentacles with numerous nematocysts on it. These nematocysts which look like a little pill emit venom in a thread like structure within it. When the tentacles come in contact with the victim, it exerts pressure. This pressure triggers the nematocysts and the thread curved in it fastens itself to the victim. The venom is released into the victim's body which is so strong that the victim feels pain and cramps in arms, shoulders and legs. He or she feels great ache in kidneys and back along with some burning and prickly feeling on entire skin and face. There are several other problems the victim is likely to face like, severe headache, vomiting, high pulse rate, improper heart beats, sweating, high blood pressure, restlessness and in worst cases, the victim may also die. Out of kinds species of jellyfish, Irukandji Jellyfish also recognized as Carukia barnesi, is considered to be the most deadly fish. These are usually seen in marine waters of Australia. Earlier, the Irukandji citizens who resided next to the coastal bed of Cairns, Queensland, Australia, did not know the real reason of sudden demise of their near ones. The person who is attacked by the poisonous jellyfish feels unbearable pain which spreads in the entire body and especially in legs, arms and shoulders. The victim also experienced ache in kidneys and back as well as extreme headache, vomiting, high blood pressure, improper pulse rate etc. this situation was previously called as 'Irukandji syndrome'. Soon Dr. Jack Barnes discovered that this pain was due to venomous jellyfish stings. To prove his point, he permitted himself and a few other inhabitants to be stung by this deadly jellyfish. Later on, it was also seen that Carukia Barnesi, a type of poisonous jellyfish was actually the main cause behind these unbearable symptoms. Carukia Barnesi, also called as Malo Kingi was named after the American tourist, Robert King, passed away after its deadly sting. Although the size of Carukia Barnesi is quite tiny and measures only 12mm-30mm bell height, it considered to be extremely venomous. It may discharge just a little quantity of venom in the victim's body, but it may lead to rigorous condition which may further lead to demise of the victim. Initially the victim may experience slight symptoms like discomfort and little pain in the body, but after some time, about half an hour after the sting, the person experiences severe symptoms. In a few cases the signs are delayed for a few hours and also for a few days, so it was hard for the inhabitants of Irukandji to identify the actual reason of the unexpected health disorder. It is often observed that magnesium helps in diminishing the poisonous effects of the sting, if the victim is given proper medication on time. Also, if the victim is hospitalized and given first aid immediately, then there are chances that the victim may live. Usually, the victim stung by Irukandji Jellyfish may even die if not treated on time. So be careful, the jellyfish are coming!

### About the Author

Learn more about the [Irukandji Jellyfish](#) and how dangerous [Jellyfish Sting](#) can be at JellyfishFacts.net

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