



**ACTIVITY:** Bathing

**CASE:** [GSAF 2014.08.27.c](#)

**DATE:** Wednesday August 27, 2014

**LOCATION:** The incident took place in the Western Mediterranean Sea at near Balcon de Poniente, Benidorm, a coastal town in Alicante, Spain.

**NAME:** Raquel Martin

**DESCRIPTION:** She is a female in her 30s, a tourist from Madrid.

#### **BACKGROUND**

**WEATHER:** Alicante recorded clear skies in the morning, becoming partly cloudy after 14h30 and visibility 10.1 miles. The average temperature was 82°F, dew point 68°F, sea level pressure 29.93 inches, with East to ENE breezes throughout the day.

**MOON PHASE:** Waxing crescent, 3% of the Moon was illuminated. New Moon, August 25, 2014.

**ENVIRONMENT:** Poniente Beach is south of the harbor entrance at Benidorm, and regarded as one of its two best beaches.

**DISTANCE FROM SHORE:** Eight feet

**NARRATIVE:** Raquel Martin and her husband were enjoying a dip in the sea, when suddenly a large fish brushed past. "Moments later I felt a sharp pain, like I ripped the leg", said



*Benidorm*

Raquel. Her husband helped her out of the water. The beach was closed for two hours while police and lifesavers searched the area.

**INJURY:** Superficial lacerations to posterior lower left leg.

**FIRST AID / TREATMENT:** Her husband placed a tourniquet around her knee, Before lifeguards arrived, Ruben, a lifeguard on vacation from Albacete, provided first aid. She was taken by ambulance to the Foietes Primary Care Facility where the injury was treated and she was discharged the same day.

**SPECIES:** Although local authorities attributed the injury to an eel, witnesses claim to have seen a fin near the woman when she was bitten, and photographs of the injury suggest that it may have been caused by a small shark.

**SOURCES:** DiariInformacion.com, August 29, 2014  
<http://www.diarioinformacion.com/benidorm/2014/08/29/acotanzona-bano-sufrir-joven/1539774.html>

Levante, September 1, 2014,  
<http://www.levante-emv.com/comunitat-valenciana/2014/09/01/senti-arrancaban-pierna-agua/1156192.html>



*Raquel Martin*