

**ACTIVITY:** Swimming

**CASE:** [GSAF 2011.03.21.b](#)

**DATE:** Monday March 21, 2011

**LOCATION:** The accident took place in the Caribbean Sea off H10 Ocean Coral Resort about an hour from of Cancun, Quintana Roo, Mexico.

**NAME:** Andrew Masternak

**DESCRIPTION:** He is a 46-year-old male from Mississauga, Canada.

**BACKGROUND**

**MOON PHASE:** Waning Gibbous, 94% of the moon was illuminated.

**DISTANCE FROM SHORE:** 10 metres

**NARRATIVE:** Approximately 177,000 Canadians visit the Mayan Riviera each spring, according to Mexican authorities. On March 21, Masternak was two days into his vacation with his wife, Andrea. He was swimming when he felt pain in his foot, looked down, and saw blood. "I screamed when I realize what happened," he said. "I knew the pain was going to get worse, so I just tried to make it back to shore."

With the help of other swimmers, Masternak was taken from the ocean to the sandy beach.

**INJURY:** Nerves and tendons in his right foot were severed, and muscle tissue was damaged.

**TREATMENT:** Paramedics transported Masternak to a Cancun hospital where doctors repaired the injury with 50 stitches. It was reported that he may have to undergo plastic surgery to regain full use of his foot.

**SPECIES:** Shark involvement suspected but not confirmed.

**SOURCE:** Mississauga.net, <http://www.mississauga.com/news/article/972913--man-bitten-by-shark>



Fred Loek

*Andrew Masternak recovering at home*

