

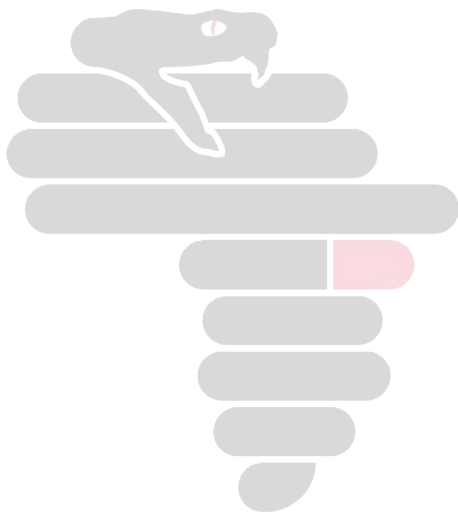
KENYA SNAKEBITE
RESEARCH & INTERVENTION CENTRE

SAVING LIVES & LIMBS

www.ksric-asrg.org



ABOUT US



KENYA SNAKEBITE
RESEARCH & INTERVENTION CENTRE

Kenya snakebite research and intervention centre(K-SRIC), situated within the Institute of Primate Research (IPR), is a centre of excellence in snakebite research and Interventions. K-SRIC's key strategic objective is to undertake multi-disciplinary research activities leading to better Diagnosis and therapies for snakebite, while working towards community-based model intervention systems with the primary goal of saving the lives and limbs of those afflicted with snakebites.

Snakebite is a WHO-listed Neglected Tropical Disease that kills 32,000 people residing in some of the most disadvantaged rural communities of sub-Saharan Africa and leaves over 90,000 surviving victims with permanent physical disabilities/disfigurements. The most economically important and educationally-vulnerable 10-30 year olds suffer the highest rates of snakebite mortality and morbidity.

It is envisaged that K-SRIC's research, intervention systems and protocols will significantly improve snakebite management in Kenya and could be adopted throughout sub-Saharan Africa to reduce the continents high levels of snakebite-induced death and disability.



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Institute of Primate Research
End of Karen Road
P.O. Box 24481 Karen 00502
Nairobi, Kenya

Kenya Snakebite Research and intervention centre (K-SRIC) Snakebite Emergency Response System. (SERS)

1. Community



The community identifies snakebite victims and contacts the nearest community health volunteer.



2. Community health volunteers (CHVs)



Receive call from victim and offer first aid as directed by paramedic.



3. Nurse/Paramedic



Move to victim's location, administer first aid and move victim to nearest health facility.



4. Motorcycle ambulance



Rides from victim's location with paramedic to the receiving hospital.



7. Back to community



Nurse follow up on victim's progress and addresses any challenges faced.



6. Referral Hospital



Victim receives snake anti-venom and further medical attention.



5. Local Health facility



Offer emergency care, assess need for Snake Anti-venom and refer for further management

FIRST AID DO'S AND DON'TS

When bitten by a snake...

DO



Move victim from danger



Call the medical response number.



Remove all jewelry



Circle the site of the bite with a pen and note the time



Immobilize the affected limb.



Help calm the patient.



Position the victim while lying on the side, to ensure an open airway



Help move the victim into the ambulance, once it arrives.

DON'T



Panic (and neither should the victim)



Pursue or try to kill the snake



Apply tourniquet or tight clothing



Use the affected limb



Use traditional methods such as herbs or black stones to try and extract the venom

When spit in the eyes

DO



Irrigate the eye with a lot of water/ milk/ urine



Call the emergency number



Put a pad over the affected eye

DON'T



Rub the eye



LIVING SAFELY WITH SNAKES

- Never try to kill or handle a snake.
- Do not put your hands or feet in holes, hollow logs or rock cleavages.
- Wear closed shoes.
- Control vegetation around your home.
- Keep the compound clean and tidy.
- Keep water source, poultry and other farm animals a safe distance from the house.
- Use raised beds and mosquito nets when sleeping.
- Be alert at all times in the bush, especially in the early morning when snakes are more likely to be sunning themselves.
- Use a torch when walking around at night.

VENOMOUS SNAKES IN KENYA

NAME

BITE SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS



Red Spitting Cobra

Orange-red, with a black throat band

- Local swelling and blistering
- Local necrosis
- Burning pain and redness in eye envenomation



Large Brown Spitting Cobra

Different shades of brown.

- Severe, progressive swelling
- Necrosis
- Burning pain and redness in eye envenomation



Black Mamba

Gray with a black mouth.

- Tingling of the tongue and lips with a metallic taste.
- Drooping eye lids.
- Descending paralysis.



Puff Adder

Light brown, overlaid with a pattern of dark brown to black U-shaped bands

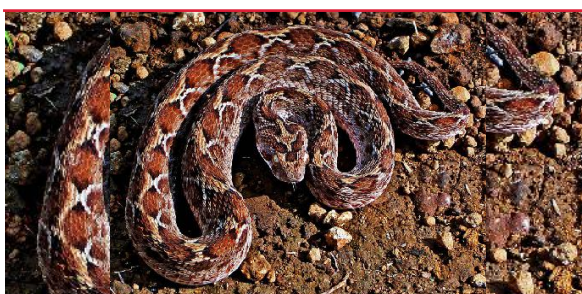
- Immediate severe pain, swelling and blistering.
- Necrosis with massive muscle and tissue damage.
- Continuous bleeding from bite wound, mouth, nose and other orifices.



Boomslang

Females brown, males green.

- Bleeding from bite wound, gums, nose and other orifices.
- Headache, nausea and sleepiness.



Carpet Viper

Light brown, with pale crossbars along the back

- Local pain and severe swelling.
- External and internal bleeding

NON-VENOMOUS SNAKES IN KENYA

NAME



Kenya sand boa



Rufous beaked snake



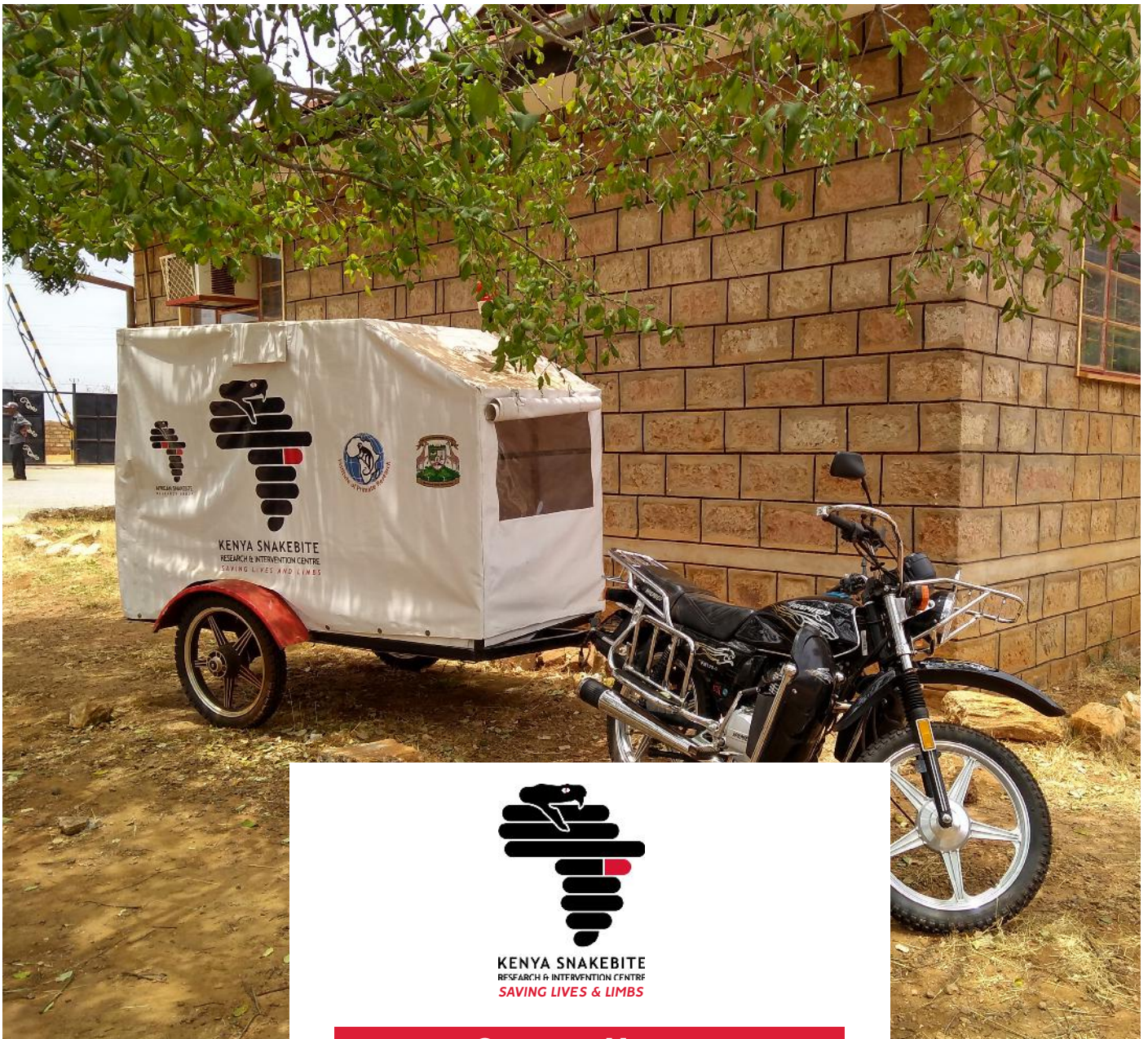
Link-marked sand snake



Speckled sand snake



Red Spotted Beaked Snaked



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