

MOZAMBIQUE SPITTING COBRA - IMFETI

VERY DANGEROUS



VERY DANGEROUS

IDENTIFICATION FEATURES	IMMEDIATE SYMPTOMS	FIRST-AID
<p>This snake is very common in Swaziland and is responsible for most of the recorded bites. It is mostly active at night but will also hunt during the day. Although it spits venom, it will bite without hesitation if it feels threatened or is hurt.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• It will rear up a spread a hood when threatened. If it is not left alone, it will spray its' venom. If it still feels threatened or is hurt, it will strike.• Some victims may have multiple bites.• A medium length snake averaging 1.2m – 1.5m.• The colour is light to dark brown or dark grey.• The skin between the scales is black.• The throat is light orange with 1 to 3 black bands.	<p>The venom is highly Cytotoxic and immediate medical attention is required.</p> <p><i>The following symptoms may be apparent:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• There will be immediate burning sensation at the bite site.• There will be a throbbing pain at the bite site.• Swelling will start, within minutes, and will move up the bitten limb.• The swelling will feel hot to the touch.• There will be very little or no bleeding from the bite site.	<p>A bite from this snake is very painful but not life threatening if treated correctly. Antivenom is required in 90% of cases to limit damage to the affected limb.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Remember to remain calm.• Gently wash the bite site with water, noting else.• Remove rings, jewelry and other restrictive clothing or shoes.• Draw a ring around the bite site.• Write the time the bite occurred next to the bite site.• Elevate (lift) the affected limb.• Keep the limb elevated until you have reached the medical facility. <p>DO NOT, under any circumstances, tourniquet (tie a band, belt or rope) or apply a pressure bandage to the affected limb.</p>



swaziland
antivenom
foundation