

**This guideline applies to defined snake bites from venomous snakes found in Victoria (Brown, Tiger and Red-Bellied Black snakes)**

## Toxicity / Risk Assessment

*Patients with no bite mark or no symptoms may be envenomed.*

*All SUSPECTED snake bite victims require admission for lab investigations/ neuro exam until a time point at least 12-hours post-bite.*

*Snakes causing human envenoming in Victoria: Tiger snake, Brown snake, Red-Bellied black snake.*

### Clinical features of envenoming:

- Patients may be envenomed, but remain asymptomatic
- Early collapse (Brown snake), cardiac arrest
- **None-specific:** headache, nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain
- **Neurotoxicity:** ptosis, diplopia/ophthalmoplegia, respiratory or distal limb paralysis, seizures
- **Coagulopathy:** bleeding from bite site, venipuncture, gums, epistaxis, ICH
  - a) Venom Induced Consumptive Coagulopathy (VICC): INR > 1.3,
    - ↓ fibrinogen, elevated d-dimer
  - b) Anticoagulant coagulopathy (Black snake): raised APTT
- **TMA (thrombotic microangiopathy):** renal impairment, ↓ Hb, ↓ platelet
- **Musculoskeletal:** local pain (Black snake), rhabdomyolysis, myoglobinuria (can be delayed)

