

ASI FOUNDATION





The African Snakebite Institute Foundation is a registered non-profit organisation (NPO no. 231-106) which focuses on educating people about snakes and snakebite, first aid measures and the medical treatment of snakebite in Africa.

One of the biggest challenges we face in Africa is the availability of antivenom. Snakebite deaths have been recognised by the World Health Organisation as a neglected tropical disease.

Up to 20,000 snakebite fatalities are reported in Africa every year. In addition to fatal bites, many families also have to cope with morbidity and serious bites often result in severe tissue damage or even amputation.

The early administration of antivenom, when required, drastically reduces morbidity.





Antivenom is expensive and often in short supply. We regularly receive telephone calls from hospitals country wide, especially on weekends, looking for antivenom for a snakebite emergency. The manufacturers of our antivenoms - The South African Vaccine Producers (SAVP) is a pharmaceutical company and do not trade on weekends.



Most serious snakebite cases require 6 - 15 ampoules of polyvalent antivenom and this costs between R14,500 and R28,600 per treatment for the antivenom alone.

While the ASI Foundation always stocks sufficient antivenom for one treatment, we are based in Pretoria and getting antivenom to the more remote areas in South Africa can be a logistical nightmare.



Considering the above we have established the African Snakebite Institute Foundation with an ambitious plan of establishing over 25 antivenom banks throughout South Africa where both polyvalent and monovalent snakebite antivenom will be available 24 hours a day.

To fully stock all the antivenom banks initially, and this will be done through various pharmaceutical departments of universities and hospitals, will cost in the region of R1m.

The African Snakebite Institute Foundation is currently seeking donations from various corporates as well as members of the public. With the effect that Covid19 has had on the world economy it might not be the best of times to seek donations, but we are forging ahead in any event.

Every cent donated will go towards purchasing antivenom and no money will be used for any other purpose, including salaries or travel.

**For enquiries, please contact Ashley on:
foundation@asiorg.co.za or +27 73 186 9176**

Should you wish to donate to this cause, payments can be made directly to the ASI Foundation Bank account.

**Account name: African Snakebite Institute Foundation NPO
Bank: First National Bank
Bank Account Number: 62858750055
Branch Code: 250655**

www.**AFRICANSNAKEBITEINSTITUTE**.com

