



Snakebite Profile

GREEN MAMBA

Dendroaspis angusticeps



Risk of Bites

The Green Mamba rarely accounts for bites in southern Africa, as it lives in thick coastal bush, which it is quick to disappear into.



Most Bites

Most victims are bitten on a hand while trying to catch or kill the snake. If given the chance, the Green Mamba is quick to escape into the nearest bush.

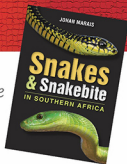


Symptoms & Venom

The venom is both neurotoxic and cytotoxic and does not appear to be anywhere near as potent to that of the Black Mamba. However, the bite is still very serious. Victims may experience a fair amount of swelling.

See pages 46-48

– *Snakes and Snakebite in Southern Africa* (2024).



First Aid

Immobilise and reassure the patient, who must lie down in a rescue position. Immediately arrange transport to a hospital with emergency facilities. If far from a hospital, apply a pressure bandage (Page 19 of *Snakes and Snakebite in Southern Africa*). Resort to artificial respiration if the victim stops breathing.



Medical Treatment

In cases of severe envenomation, where patients are not breathing, they should be intubated, ventilated, and treated with 10-15 vials of SAVP Polyvalent antivenom. Additional vials of antivenom may be required at a later stage.

