

SNAKEBITE PROFILE **SOUTHERN ADDER**

Bitis armata



Risk of Bites

This snake has a limited distribution in South Africa and no bites have been recorded.



Most Bites

Due to its limited distribution, bites would be to people trying to catch or photograph a snake, or accidentally stepping onto one.



& Symptoms & Venom

Nothing is known about the venom of this snake, but it is thought to be like that of the other dwarf adders, causing pain and swelling.

See pages 29-31 Snakes and Snakebite in Southern Africa (2024).





Immobilise and reassure the patient and elevate the affected limb. Remove tight clothing and jewelry. Transport the victim to the nearest hospital or doctor for pain management. Avoid all other first aid remedies including bandages.



Medical Treatment

There is no antivenom for bites from this snake, and doctors would treat a bite symptomatically.



