



# **CASE PRESENTATION**

# **SNAKE ENVENOMATION**

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- OR, 33/M, came in as a referral from Iwa Medical Centre for further management following a snake bite 12 hours prior to admission.
- Was reportedly bitten on his right lower limb.
- Presenting complaints: vomiting, difficulty in breathing, convulsions and reduced consciousness, and swelling of the right lower limb.
- Prereferral interventions: I.V fluids and I.M diclofenac; Patient arrived to referring medical center within an hour.
- On arrival at Lacor hospital, patient was rushed to ICU.

# Primary Survey

AIRWAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❑ Patient unconscious and unable to talk.</li><li>❑ Frothy secretions in the mouth</li><li>❑ Intubated</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❑ Admit to ICU</li><li>❑ Suctioned secretions</li></ul>
BREATHING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❑ Breathing under mechanical ventilation, RR-28cycles/min</li><li>❑ Normal chest shape, vesicular breath sounds with equal air entry bilaterally.</li><li>❑ Chest clear.</li><li>❑ SPO2-97% on MV</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❑ Maintain oxygen therapy via MV</li></ul>

CIRCULATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❑ Not pale, no external bleeding.</li> <li>❑ Cool peripheries, full volume regular pulse.</li> <li>❑ PR-81bpm, BP-99/44mmHg</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❑ IV fluids NS 2L in 24hrs</li> <li>❑ Insert catheter and monitor urine output.</li> </ul>
DISABILITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❑ Reduced consciousness</li> <li>❑ GCS-6T (E2, VT, M4)</li> <li>❑ Pupils 3mm bilaterally equally reactive to light.</li> <li>❑ Fasciculations at lower limbs and face.</li> <li>❑ Normal muscle tone and reflexes.</li> <li>❑ RBS-14.2mmol/L</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❑ DO CBC, electrolytes, RFTs, LFTs</li> <li>❑ Administer Antivenom(polyvalent)</li> <li>❑ Tetanus Toxoid vaccine</li> <li>❑ Care for an unconscious patient</li> </ul>

EXPOSURE	<p>Head to toe examination done:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>□ Swelling of the right leg.</li><li>□ No bite mark identified.</li><li>□ P/A-Normal.</li></ul>	
INVESTIGATIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>□ CBC:WBC-13.6, HB-13.7, PLT-152</li><li>□ Crea-1.5(^), urea-42</li><li>□ Na-150.1(^), K-4, Cl-120.3(^)</li></ul>	

# SAMPLE history

S	Signs and symptoms.	Vomiting, convulsions, reduced consciousness, profuse sweating
A	Allergies	None
M	Medications	Not on any medications.
P	Past medical history.	No known chronic illness. Patient received IV fluids and analgesics at referral site. Patient spent 10 hours at referral site before arrival at Lacor.
L	Last meal	Unknown.
E	Events	Was in the garden prior to the reported snake bite. The snake was not seen.

**Impression:** Neurotoxic snake bite

**DDx:** Spider bite, Scorpion envenomation, r/o CVA

# Problem list.

□ Neurotoxic envenomation.

□ Laboured breathing.

□ Reduced consciousness

□ r/o Organ injury/damage



# Follow up on ward

DAY	PRESENTATION	INTERVENTION
Day 1	Profuse sweating, convulsions Fasciculations(all limbs, facial muscles), BP-128/67mmHg, PR-80bpm, secretions in mouth, GCS-10T/15, pupils constricted unreactive to light. Patient had received antivenom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☐ IV Phenytoin, IV Atropine,</li> <li>☐ IV hydrocortisone</li> <li>☐ IV fluids</li> <li>☐ NGT feeding</li> <li>☐ Recommended second dose of antivenom</li> <li>☐ 2 hourly turning in bed</li> </ul>
Day 2	Marked oral secretions and generalised fasciculations. Depressed cardiac activity on ECG.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☐ IV Calcium gluconate,</li> <li>☐ IV adrenaline IV Atropine,</li> <li>☐ IV Ceftriaxone,</li> <li>☐ analgo-sedation with morphine and midazolam.</li> </ul>

Day 3	<p>Reported fevers, generalised fasciculations. (T-40.9), BP-70/33 to 91/49, PR-109bpm, SPO2-98% MV GCS-9T/15(Patient sedated) Urine output 80mls over 4 hours after 2.5L NS RFT- Crea-58.2, Urea-225.9 , K-2.86 ALT x7, AST x20</p> <p>Imp: AKI, ALI</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☐ Cooling with ice pack</li> <li>☐ IV Paracetamol, IV PISA</li> <li>☐ IV Pancuronium, IV dexamethasone</li> <li>☐ IV KCL, IV fluids NS, Adrenalin infusion.</li> <li>☐ Monitor UO</li> <li>☐ Second dose of antivenom recommended</li> </ul>
Day 4	<p>Patient improved, extubated Fasciculations at calf muscles. Afebrile,GCS-13/15, BP-116/70mmHg, PR-70bpm, SPO2-98% on NP</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☐ IV Potassium chloride</li> <li>☐ Remove NGT and star oral feeds</li> </ul>
Day 5	<p>Great improvement, able to feed orally GCS-15/15, no respiratory distress Mild fasciculations on lower limbs bilaterally</p> <p>NB: Patient received only one dose of antivenom on Day 1</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>☐ Physiotherapy</li> <li>☐ Transfer out of ICU to general ward.</li> </ul>

THANK YOU