

**CLINICAL PATHWAY**

**SUSPECTED AND CONFIRMED SNAKE BITE:** all cases should be observed with serial blood testing for 12 hours to exclude severe envenoming using the following pathway.

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Initial for YES

<b>INTERVENTION / OUTCOME</b>	<b>INITIAL.</b>
Patient presented at _____ hrs with/without pressure bandage in situ.	
<b>Pathology taken on admission for:</b> Coagulation tests (INR, aPTT, d-Dimer <sup>§</sup> ), FBC, UEC, CK and VDK <sup>‡</sup>	
Pathology results reviewed within one hour and are within normal limits. <b>IF</b> pathology results are abnormal, <i>exit pathway, admit patient and treat; see guidelines<sup>§</sup></i>	
Remove pressure bandage and immobilisation, observe for any symptoms	
<b>Repeat bloods 1 hour post-bandage removal:</b> Coagulation tests (INR, aPTT) and CK	
Pathology results reviewed and are within normal limits. The patient has no signs of neurotoxicity (ptosis, bulbar, respiratory or distal paralysis)*. <b>IF</b> pathology results are abnormal OR neurotoxicity develops, <i>exit pathway, admit patient and treat; see guidelines<sup>§</sup></i>	
<b>Repeat bloods 6 hours post-bite (unless already &gt; 6 hours):</b> Coagulation tests (INR, aPTT) and CK	
Pathology results reviewed and are within normal limits. The patient has no signs of neurotoxicity. <b>IF</b> pathology results are abnormal OR neurotoxicity develops*, <i>exit pathway, admit patient and treat; see guidelines<sup>§</sup></i>	
<b>Final bloods at 12 hours post-bite:</b> Coagulation tests (INR, aPTT) and CK	
Pathology results reviewed and are within normal limits. The patient has no signs of neurotoxicity. <b>IF</b> pathology results are abnormal OR neurotoxicity develops*, <i>exit pathway, admit patient and treat; see guidelines<sup>§</sup></i>	
Patient discharged with normal INR, aPTT and CK at _____ hrs.	

<sup>§</sup> d-Dimer may need repeating if it is moderately elevated – > cut-off but < 10 x cut-off because this is more likely a false positive; <sup>‡</sup> a bite site swab should be collected and stored, test if there is envenoming, <sup>\*</sup>Neurotoxicity can be subtle and it is important to include both looking for ptosis and assessing for fatigue (eyelid droop from failure to maintain an upward gaze). <sup>§</sup>Applicable guidelines at treatment site. NB. Some geographical regions with different venomous snake fauna are not well represented in our dataset, and local modification of this pathway may be needed to account for differences in snake fauna.