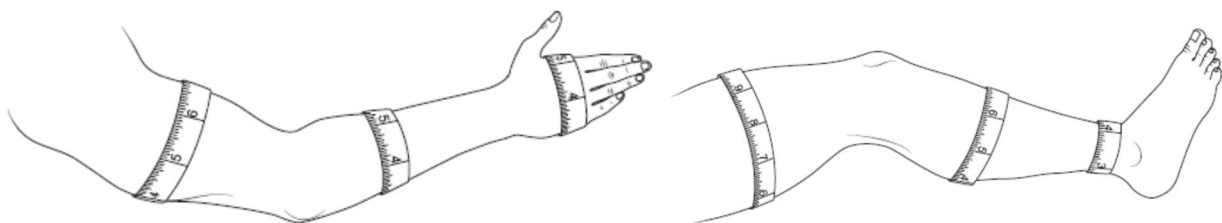




Toxicology Consultants of Arizona  
3241 E Shea Blvd 441  
Phoenix, Arizona 85028  
(602) 388-1180 Telephone/Facsimile/SMS

## Pit Viper (Rattlesnake) Bite ED Checklist

- ☐ Call on-call toxicologist at (602) 388-1180
- ☐ Cardiac monitor and oxygen (if less than 90% O<sub>2</sub> sat). Airway, breathing and circulation
- ☐ Start 2 large bore IVs with Normal Saline running (1-2 liter boluses are common, then 1.5 to 2X maintenance in patients without cardiac problems)
- ☐ Draw blood for labs (CBC, CMP, fibrinogen, PT/INR, CK)
- ☐ Mark limb with a marker in 3 places as shown below with a skin marker. Document measurements [centimeters (cm) preferred] in EMR. Measure every 30 minutes until antivenom starts then every 60 minutes after antivenom has started. May mark leading edge of swelling and note the time.



- ☐ Pain control with narcotic pain medications [fentanyl or hydromorphone (Dilaudid) is recommended]. **NO** ibuprofen, naproxen, aspirin, steroids, ice
- ☐ Administer antiemetics if required such as ondansetron (Zofran)
- ☐ Ask about allergies to medication, horses, sheep, papaya, pineapple and if the patient has received any type of antivenom before. Notify the provider as quickly as possible.
- ☐ Start antivenom slowly then increase rate 5-10 minutes after the start of infusion. Total infusion time is one hour.
  - Monitor for anaphylaxis to the antivenom (itch, rash, hypotension, swelling, etc.). Treat reactions with standard treatment (antihistamines, steroids, IV fluids and epinephrine if the reaction is severe).
- ☐ Keep extremity below the level of the heart until antivenom is started. After antivenom starts, raise the extremity as high as possible (above the heart).
- ☐ Check tetanus status and administer tetanus booster if necessary

Patient Label

# Rattlesnake Bite Measurement Worksheet

[illegible]