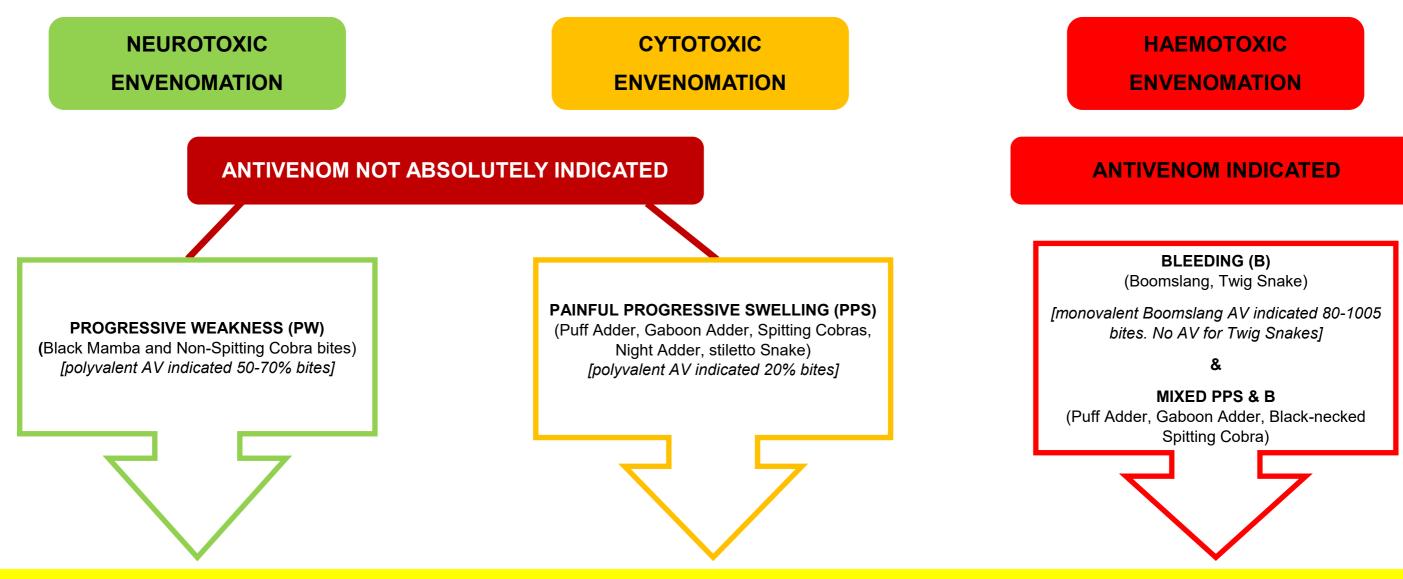
## INDICATIONS FOR ANTIVENOM ADMINISTRATION IN ZAMBIA





## **SEVERE ENVENOMATION ANTICIPATED—ANTIVENOM INDICATED**

The triad of pins & needles with or without metallic taste, profuse sweating and excessive salivation—Black Mamba

## Or: 3 or more from:

**5 Ps:** Pain at bite site Paraesthesia tongue + lips Ptosis Pupillary abnormalities Descending flaccid paralysis

**REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA** 

<u>**5 Ss:</u>** Swallowing difficulties Slurred Speech Sweating Secretion Salivation</u> Swelling extending at 10 cm or more per hour.

Extremity bites: swelling reaches: wrist or ankle within 1 hour or knee or elbow within 3-4 hours or Shoulder or groin in 8 hours or Torso Unstoppable bleeding from fang punctures and/or severe headaches, dizziness, fainting or convulsions

## SEVERE OR LIFE-THREATENING ENVENOMATION PRESENT— ANTIVENOM INDICATED

Shortness of breath due to weakness in the absence of PPS (Black Mamba)

Inability to swallow saliva

Generalised weakness in the presence of PPS (Non-spitting Cobras)

Drooping eyelids, dilated pupils or squint may not be followed by respiratory distress per see.

Extremity bites—swelling of a whole limb within 8 hours

Swelling threatening the airway

Associated unexplained shortness of breath

Associated abnormality of blood clothing (see B syndrome)

Very tense limb (compartment syndrome) or compressed major blood vessel Active systemic bleeding (not bruising of the bitten limb alone)

Non-clotting blood after 20 minutes in an undisturbed, new, dry, clean test tube (use blood from a healthy person as a control)

Significant laboratory evidence of a blood clothing abnormality

CONTENT SOURCE CREDIT:



African Reptiles & Venom

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