



WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

About Venomous Snakebites

What effect will the snakebite have on me?

When a venomous snake bites, it usually injects poison, called venom. The venom can have many serious effects, starting with pain, swelling, and skin damage at the bite location. Left untreated, it can lead to other complications.

Snake venom can have dangerous effects on the nervous system, heart, and other organs and can cause bleeding inside your body. In some cases it can lead to loss of part or all of your fingers or toes, injury to your arms or legs, and long-lasting skin, muscle, and nerve problems.

Treatment with antivenom along with supportive care can prevent permanent damage and will provide the best results.

What treatment will I receive?

- You will receive CroFab, a medicine that acts against the snake venom in your body. CroFab is given into the vein as an IV infusion.
- Your first dose of CroFab will be followed by up to 60 minutes of observation.
 - Your healthcare providers will run tests and observe to see how well the treatment is working.
 - You may receive additional doses of CroFab if necessary. The goal of these initial doses of antivenom is to stabilize your symptoms and stop progression of damage caused by the venom.
- Once symptoms are under control, you will receive up to 3 maintenance doses of CroFab every 6 hours to prevent symptoms from returning and lower the risk of long-term effects of snake venom.

What is CroFab?

CroFab® Crotalidae Polyvalent Immune Fab (Ovine) is prescription antivenom indicated for the management of adult and pediatric patients with North American crotalid envenomation. The term crotalid is used to describe the Crotalinae subfamily (formerly known as Crotalidae) of venomous snakes that includes rattlesnakes, copperheads, and cottonmouths/water moccasins.

CROFab®
crotalidae polyvalent immune fab (ovine)



What should I tell my healthcare provider before receiving CroFab?

Tell your healthcare provider about all of your medical conditions and allergies, if you are pregnant or planning to become pregnant, or if you are breastfeeding.



When can I leave the hospital?

Your healthcare providers will discharge you when:

- The venom effects have stopped
- You can perform typical everyday tasks without help or have help available at home
- Your pain is under control (with or without pain medicine)
- You have no other medical reason requiring you to remain in the hospital



After you leave the hospital

- Keep the area of the bite raised above your heart as much as you can to reduce swelling.
- Depending on the snakebite, you may:
 - Be asked to avoid any contact sports or elective surgical procedures and dental work for at least 2 weeks after returning home.
 - Need to return for follow-up lab tests after you are discharged.

Call your healthcare provider immediately if you have:

- Unusual bleeding (bleeding gums, easy bruising, or dark, sticky bowel movements)
- Allergic reactions like itching, redness, wheezing, fever, or rash
- Swelling that gets worse and is not relieved by raising the affected limb

These are not all of the possible side effects of CroFab. Talk to your healthcare provider for information about side effects or for more information about CroFab.



Be prepared in the event of a snakebite.
Download the SnakeBite911 app today.



Important Safety Information

Do not receive treatment with CroFab if you are allergic to any of its ingredients, or to papaya or papain, unless the benefits are greater than the risk and you are able to receive immediate treatment if you have a severe allergic reaction.

If you experienced bleeding problems caused by envenomation, these **bleeding problems may return for 1 to 2 weeks or more** after initial treatment with CroFab®. It is important to follow up with your healthcare provider during the first week after receiving CroFab®, as these bleeding problems may require additional treatment.

Severe allergic reactions requiring emergency treatment may occur with CroFab®. You may be at greater risk for a severe allergic reaction if you are allergic to papain, chymopapain, other papaya extracts, or the pineapple enzyme bromelain. Tell your healthcare provider if you experience any signs or symptoms of an allergic reaction or serum sickness (e.g., rash, fever, muscle aches, joint pain) in the days or weeks following treatment with CroFab®.

The most common side effects seen with CroFab were hives, rash, nausea, itchy skin, and back pain. Other side effects included severe allergic reaction and late bleeding caused by envenomation that returned after successful treatment. These are not all the possible side effects of CroFab®. Tell your healthcare provider about any side effect that you experience.



Full Prescribing
Information

Follow CroFab:



CROFab®
crotalidae polyvalent immune fab (ovine)

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