



Many of the world's most venomous snakes live in Australia. In South Australia, the majority of venomous snakes found in populated areas are:

- Eastern brown snake (in photo)
- Red-bellied black snake
- copperhead snake
- Western brown snake
- Tiger snakes



Snakes will try and avoid confrontation with a human or a pet by either moving away and hiding or lying still until the threat has moved away. However, like most wild animals, snakes will defend themselves if they are startled, feel threatened or are cornered.

Co-existing with snakes and reducing the risk of a snake bite

Some snake species, like the eastern brown snake are well-adapted to co-exist with humans. In urban environments their diet consists mainly of introduced species like rats and mice.

Snakes will make use of any cover close to the ground. They will seek shelter in wood heaps, under corrugated roofing iron and in piles of rubbish, all of which are often found close to houses.

There are several things you can do to make your property less attractive to snakes and reduce your chances of you and your greyhound being bitten:

- Clean up rubbish around your home
- Keep grass short and your gardens clean and tidy
- Take steps to reduce mice and rats
- Check boots before putting them on if left outdoors
- Never put your hand somewhere that can't be seen
- Consider snake-proof fencing

If you see or find a snake

If you do come across a snake, keep yourself and greyhounds clear and do not try to touch it. Almost all snake bites occur when people try to handle, kill or harm a snake.

- Take note of the colour and patterns on the snake
- Do NOT attempt to catch the live snake or harm the snake
- Snakes are protected native animals and it is illegal to kill them unless there is a direct threat to human life

Snake catchers

Snake catchers are licensed under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972.

If a snake catcher captures a snake that is not an eastern brown snake, it must be either relocated back into a suitable habitat within 2km of where it was captured, or humanely destroyed.

Snake removal services:

- Snake Catcher Adelaide (All Areas) 24 hours: 0413 511 440
- Snake Catcher Adelaide (24 hours): 0416 435 245
- Snake Catcher (Adelaide Hills): 0448 381 221

If you suspect your greyhound been bitten by a snake - Consider this an *Emergency* and transport your dog to a vet immediately

Bites are usually inflicted on or around the head, neck and front legs. The area around the bite may swell rapidly and may be painful and/or bleed. It may be hard to find a bite in some cases as there may be no obvious swelling.

Snake bite symptoms can include:

- Dilated pupils
- Difficulty breathing
- Weakness in legs
- Trembling
- Drooling
- Pale gums
- Pacing around anxiously
- Vomiting
- Unusual behaviour
- Excessive panting
- Collapse
- Bleeding
- Sudden death

SNAKE BITE TREATMENT

In 4 quick steps



Place wound dressing on bite site.

Immediately apply a firm pressure bandage over the bite site. Do not wash venom off the skin as it will assist in later identification.

Bandage over the wound and bandage up the limb covering the entire limb and then back down towards the extremity.
Use the Pen provided to mark the bite puncture marks on the outside of the bandage.

Bandage should be firm. Keep the body and limb as still as possible. Do not elevate the limb.

Immobilise the limb as best possible; if the bite is on the forearm, put the splinted arm in a sling.

Reassure the patient and keep them calm. Many snakes are quite harmless.

SEEK URGENT MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

WARNING you must not walk the patient, remove the bandage or apply a tourniquet.
CHECK CIRCULATION AT REGULAR INTERVALS.



First Aid - Keep your vet's emergency contact details available in your kennels

First Aid is much the same for pets as it is for humans

- Keep your greyhound calm and quiet
- Immediately apply a pressure bandage if possible and follow the information below (Snake Bite First Aid Kits are available for purchase)
- Seek Veterinary Treatment immediately

The following veterinary clinics hold anti-venom medication:

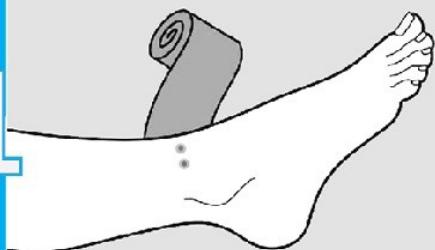
- Adelaide Plains Vet Clinic: Phone 8520 3600
- Angle Park Vet Clinic: Phone 8243 7145
- Gambier Vets: Phone 8725 8333
- Murray Bridge Vet Clinic: Phone 8531 4000

It is a good idea to contact the vet clinic on the way so they can prepare before your arrival.

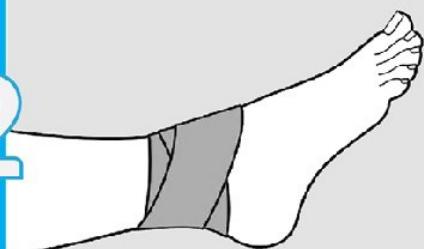
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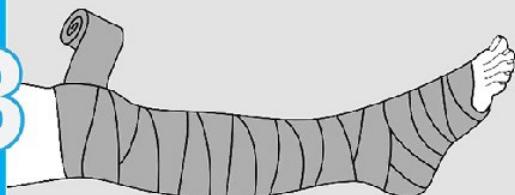
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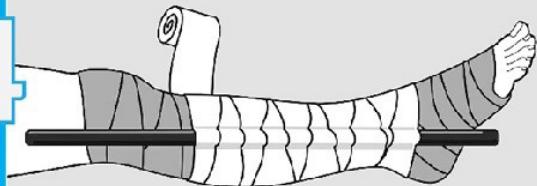
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