

Use: For the management of patients with North American crotalid (rattlesnakes, copperheads, cottonmouth/water moccasins) envenomations

Signs and Symptoms of Life-Threatening Envenomation:

- Swelling that is more than minimal and that is progressing **OR**
- Any systemic signs (hypotension, neurotoxicity, refractory vomiting, bleeding beyond puncture site, angioedema) **OR**
- Elevated prothrombintime; decreased fibrinogen or platelets

If none of the above signs and symptoms are present, the bite was most likely a “dry bite” and will only causes minimal, local irritation. CroFab® is **NOT INDICATED** in dry bites*.

CROFAB®

Background:

Crotalid evenomations may result in coagulation abnormalities due to the snake venom causing a disruption in the coagulation cascade. Treatment should begin as soon as possible, but preferable within 6 hours. Antivenom treatment may still be beneficial, even if delayed. CroFab® binds to and neutralizes venom toxin, thereby removing it from the target tissue and increasing elimination.

Dosing (IV only):

Treatment should begin as soon as possible and preferable within 6 hours of envenomation.

- Initial dose: 6 vials. May repeat with 4 vials if control is not achieved with initial dose
- For life-threatening bites including patients in shock or with serious active bleeding: 10 vials
- Maintenance dose: 2 vials every 6 hours for up to 18 hours

Monitoring:

Vital signs, CBC, clotting studies every 6 hours, size of bite area every 15-30 min. CroFab® is derived from sheep protein. Monitor for infusion-related reactions for 1 hour following administration, especially in patients with an allergy to sheep protein or papaya. Epinephrine and diphenhydramine are readily available prior to and during during administration of CroFab®.

Administration:

Mix appropriate number of vials of CroFab® in 250 mL of NS and infuse over 1 hour. Infuse at a rate of 25 ml/hour for the first 10 minutes. If no adverse effects are observed, may increase to 250 ml/hour. Re-examine patient 1 hour following the end of the CroFab® infusion. Of note, CroFab® takes ~30 minutes to go into solution once diluted.

****Please remember: Crofab® is an antidote so timing of administration is very important****

*Dry bites occur in ~25% of snake bites in the United States

