

**Emergency Department and Hospital Management of Pit Viper Snakebite (Rattlesnakes, copperheads and cottonmouths)**

**!!!Antivenom must be ordered by an attending physician!!!  
!!!Admit patient to the critical care medicine service post antivenom administration!!!**

**IV Analgesics**

- Morphine 4mg IV every 4 hours PRN severe pain [ERX: 175930]
- Hydromorphone 0.2 to 1 mg IV every 2 to 3 hours PRN severe pain [ERX: 175878]
- Fentanyl 50mcg IV q2h PRN severe pain [ERX: 3037]

**Fluids**

- Sodium Chloride 0.9% Bolus 1000mL IV once [ERX: 400291]
- Lactated Ringers 1000mL IV once [EXR: 400296]

**Tetanus**

- Diph, pertuss(accel), tet vac(PF) (Adacel) 0.5mL IM once [ERX: 520179]

**Labs**

- Fibrinogen
- Prottime-INR
- CBC
- D-dimer
- PTT

**Antivenom**

- **For adult patients with confirmed copperheads, cottonmouth/water moccasin**

Initial dose: 4 vials. Consider 8 vials for patients in shock or serious active bleeding. May repeat additional 4 vials if control is not achieved with initial dose. Max initial dose: 12 vials

- Initial Dose
  - Crotalidae polyvalent immune fab (CROFAB) 4 vials in 0.9% sodium chloride 250 mL IVPB [ERX: 520136]
- Maintenance Dose
  - Crotalidae polyvalent immune fab (CROFAB) 2 vials in sodium chloride 0.9% 250 mL IVPB [500325]
    - Ordering instruction: 2 vials every 6 hours for 3 doses
- **For adult patients with rattlesnake or unknown snake envenomation**
  - Initial Dose
    - Antivenin Crotalidae (equine) (ANAVIP) 10 vials in 0.9% sodium chloride 250mL IVPB [ERX: 501030]
  - Maintenance Dose
    - Antivenin Crotalidae (equine) (ANAVIP) 4 vials in 0.9% sodium chloride 250mL IVPB [ERX: 501031]