



WHAT TO DO IF YOUR DOG IS BITTEN BY A SNAKE

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1. **REMAIN CALM** - Keep yourself calm and keep your dog calm and as still as possible. Snake venom is systemically spread via the lymphatic system and therefore limiting movement is crucial in slowing the spread of venom throughout the body. Your dog should not be allowed to walk, but rather carried to the vehicle for transport to the vet.
2. **APPLY A BANDAGE** - The bandage will help to apply firm pressure and immobilize the limb. For bites to the face, apply pressure with your hand. Never apply a tourniquet, cut the wound or attempt to suck the venom out. These are potentially dangerous and unproven practices.
3. **IDENTIFY THE SNAKE** - If it's safe to do so, try to note the colour, size or any distinctive markings that may assist with identification and the selection of the correct anti-venom.
4. **GET YOUR DOG TO THE VET FAST!** - This is the most important step. Dogs that get to a vet rapidly after a bite have a far higher chance of survival. If possible call the vet while you are en-route so they can make the necessary preparations for your arrival. Alternatively, if you can, have someone else call the vet while you are doing steps 1-3 so the clinic can be sure they are prepared for your arrival.

The signs your dog has been bitten by a snake.....

