

## A. Introduction

To provide a resource for acquiring antivenin serum of venomous reptiles from around the world that will be available to any municipality within Miami Dade County and areas elsewhere.

## B. Procedure

### General Care

1. When a call is received reporting a person that has sustained a suspected venomous reptile injection, Venom 1 will be contacted.
2. The OIC on scene will advise Venom 1 of the situation at which time it will be determined whether the Antivenin Bank will be activated.
3. If it is determined to be a non-native venomous snakebite, Venom 1 or a designee will respond to the Antivenin Bank and select the appropriate serum and quantity needed.
4. Venom 1 or designee will contact the Receiving Hospital's Emergency Department Physician to verify the need and quantity of serum prior to packaging and shipping.
5. If the incident occurs within Miami Dade County, the following resources can be used to transport the serum to the Receiving Facility:
  - a) Venom 1 or designee
  - b) Closest Fire Rescue unit
  - c) Closest EMS Field Supervisor or Battalion Chief
  - d) Air Rescue (for critical cases only)
  - e) Miami-Dade Police helicopter
6. If the incident occurs outside of Miami Dade County, the following resources can be used to transport the serum to the Receiving Facility:
  - a) Agency requesting serum
  - b) Venom 1 or designee
  - c) Florida Highway Patrol
  - d) Air Rescue (if critical and < 150 miles)
  - e) Other air transport
7. Long distance transfers will be handled through prior arrangements with commercial airlines.
8. Under no circumstances will antivenin serum be administered outside the hospital unless a physician administers it.