



# VCEMS Training Bulletin



**Bulletin 040**

**Date: July 17, 2017**

Antivenin (AKA antivenom, venom antiserum and antivenom immunoglobulin) is a medication derived from antibodies which is used to treat venomous snake bites, typically rattlesnake bites in our area. Due to the common nature of rattlesnake bites in Ventura County, antivenin is available at all emergency rooms in Ventura County.

Unless specifically directed by the Base Hospital, crews will transport to the closest appropriate destination by the most appropriate means, based on VCEMS policies and procedures.

***If there is ever a question or concern related to the availability of antivenin at a specific emergency department, that question should be relayed to the base hospital, as it is a matter of medical control. The MICN will then confirm the availability of antivenin at the emergency department in question. The Fire Communications Center (FCC) is not an appropriate resource to utilize when attempting to confirm the availability of antivenin at a local hospital.***