

## **Differences in Clinical Profiles of Patients with *Protobothrops mucrosquamatus* and *Viridovipera stejnegeri* Envenoming in Taiwan**

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**Objective:** Envenoming by *Protobothrops mucrosquamatus* and *Viridovipera stejnegeri* accounts for the majority of venomous snakebites in Taiwan. We conducted a retrospective study to systematically examine the clinical manifestations and responses to antivenom therapy following *P. mucrosquamatus* and *V. stejnegeri* envenoming.

**Methods:** Information on demographic characteristics, treatments, and systemic/local complications were abstracted from medical charts between 1991 and 2006. **Results:** One hundred and forty nine patients with *P. mucrosquamatus* envenoming and 51 with *V. stejnegeri* envenoming were eligible for the final analysis, and they differed in terms of patient age, bite site, local bruising, proportion of patients needing <sup>3</sup> 3 vials of antivenom, and mean hospital stay. Univariate analysis revealed that *P. mucrosquamatus* envenoming had a higher risk of developing rhabdomyolysis, cellulitis, necrosis, and skin graft. **Conclusion:** Our findings suggested that *P. mucrosquamatus* envenoming was associated with a greater risk of severe clinical events, and monitoring for major clinical complications would be recommended.