

SNAKEBITE PROFILE

BOULENGER'S GARTER SNAKE

Elapsoidea boulengeri

Risk of Bites

Bites to humans are not common. It is a nocturnal snake that lives underground and is seldom encountered.

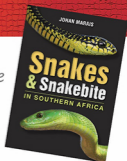
Most Bites

Bites occur mostly to snake handlers who pick up the snake.

Symptoms & Venom

The venom is neurotoxic and cytotoxic. Bites result in local swelling. Nausea, disorientation and blurred vision may be experienced in severe bites.

See pages 76-77
– *Snakes and Snakebite
in Southern Africa*
(2024).



First Aid

Immobilise and reassure the patient and elevate the affected limb. Promptly transport the victim to the nearest hospital that has emergency facilities. Avoid all other first aid remedies including bandages.

Medical Treatment

There is no antivenom for bites from this snake and doctors will treat the bite symptomatically.

