

Public webinar

Implementing the WHO strategy for prevention and control of snakebite envenoming: progress and plans

Monday 19 September 2022, 14:00–15:30 CEST (90 min)

International Snakebite Awareness Day

Registration page: https://who.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_0UmYcAlJQ0qiuZ-30CaSQA

Background and webinar objective

Snakebite envenoming is a neglected tropical disease that impacts the lives of millions of mainly poor people in tropical and subtropical countries. It is estimated that 81 000–138 000 deaths occur each year, with around three times as many amputations and permanent disabilities.

In May 2019, the World Health Organization (WHO) launched its [strategy for prevention and control of snakebite envenoming](#) with the objective of halving the number of deaths and disabilities globally by 2030. To achieve this objective, the strategy advocates a systemic and multidisciplinary approach focused on improving treatments, strengthening health systems, engaging communities, building partnerships and mobilizing resources. Since being launched, political and scientific attention to snakebite envenoming has grown substantially, although funding remains a limiting factor.

In September 2021, WHO launched a new [Snakebite Information and Data Platform \(who.int\)](#) during a public webinar that was followed by 700 participants from across the world. The first set of tools included the most up-to-date range maps of all medically important venomous snakes and an integrated antivenom products database.

Building on this momentum, and coinciding with International Snakebite Awareness Day on 19 September 2022, WHO will host a second public webinar with the aim of presenting an update on the implementation of the strategy. This will include a discussion on activities around the four key pillars of the strategy and news about functionalities being added to the platform.

Webinar format and audience

This webinar will start at 14:00 CET on 19 September 2022 and last a maximum of 90 minutes. It will address a global audience, including webinar attendees, policy-makers, programme managers, public health and health care professionals, scientists from diverse disciplines (e.g. ecology, epidemiology, toxinology) and the general public.