**Abstract**

India and the South Asian countries constitute the majority of world snakebite deaths. Some of these countries have taken action in response by developing locally relevant protocols to overcome known dependency on western textbooks for medical education. There is more for Governments to do in ensuring that all doctors are availed of the best methods of treating snakebite in local settings. The world’s largest and lowest priced producer of anti snake venom (ASV) is India and Indian ASV is used throughout the South Asian region. Affordable and sustainable ASV remains the goal across the world and yet Indian ASV is often criticized, with little justification. The view that western production methods are ‘safer’ and the answer to ASV shortages is not credible; lessons from South Asia and Indian production should be given more credence in the ASV debate. This editorial examines the current approach to snakebite and provides some thoughts on how the lessons learnt in India and South Asia can help other areas.

**Key Words:** Snake Bites, Developing World, India, World Health Organisation, Antivenoms