



American College of Medical Toxicology

Physicians Specializing in the Care of Poisoned Patients

*For more information,
contact Jim Wiggins, +1.520.979.7775 or jim.wiggins@acmt.net*

Perils of desert snake bites and poisonings featured topic at public event

Medical specialist to debunk myths and discuss consequences of snake bites, scorpion stings, and other desert poisonings

SCOTTSDALE, AZ, March 13, 2010 --- Desert enthusiasts will hear from medical experts today about the consequences and medical management of venomous bites and stings, as well as other desert poisonings, in a public education event at the Hyatt Regency Resort – Scottsdale in the Vaquero Ballroom, 1:30PM to 5:00PM. Common myths associated with natural poisonings by both animals and plants will also be discussed. The American College of Medical Toxicology and the Medical Toxicology Foundation, in collaboration with Banner Good Samaritan Poison and Drug Information Centers are sponsoring “Bites, Stings, and other Desert Poisonings for the Desert Enthusiast,” an educational event open to the public.

“Annually, between 250-300 people in Arizona are bitten by poisonous snakes,” according to Dr. Paul Wax, Executive Director of the American College of Medical Toxicology. “It’s important that Arizonans have basic knowledge about snake bite hazards, first aid, and when to seek medical treatment.”

“Adults and children are exposed to drugs, chemicals, and natural toxins on a daily basis. Public awareness programs like this about natural and man-made toxins are an increasingly important part of the Medical Toxicology Foundation’s outreach effort to better inform the public about these hazards and that’s why we are sponsoring this event today.”, noted Dr. Erica Liebelt, president of the Medical Toxicology Foundation.

Over one hundred participants are expected to attend today, including; Boy Scouts, city park workers, Maricopa County Mountain Rescue Team members, local charter school teachers and, hiking and camping enthusiasts.

###

About the American College of Medical Toxicology

The American College of Medical Toxicology (ACMT) is a professional, nonprofit association of physicians with recognized expertise in medical toxicology. The mission of ACMT is to advance quality care of poisoned patients and public health through physicians who specialize in consultative, emergency, environmental, forensic, and occupational toxicology. For more information, see www.acmt.net.

About the Medical Toxicology Foundation

The Medical Toxicology Foundation works to sustain and improve the practice of medical toxicology and is committed to funding medical toxicology education and research programs that are vital to the care of patients suffering from the adverse effects of drug, chemical and natural toxin exposures. For more information, see www.acmt.net.