

Red-necked Keelback Poisons Cat?

I received a comment this morning from someone in Thailand that was really very interesting. A cat vs. a red-necked keelback. The outcome turned out OK, but pretty dramatic effects. Read on!

Comment

This little snake, the size of my index finger, bit my cat (somewhere in the mouth area) who was trying to tease it. The cat ran and so did the snake, very fast in the grass and hard to spot. My cat immediately foamed at the mouth which lasted for about 15 minutes. It then suffered spasm on its legs and it tumbled forward when it she was trying to walk. She's two years old and weighs 4 kgs. I called my local vet and she ordered an injection at the nearby pet clinic. I administered the shot subcutaneously. The cat was fine after that.

We are in the mountainous area of Kampot.

In reply to [Nareth](#).

That's really interesting – thanks for the story. I have no idea what happened there. The snake is rear-fanged, is not built for envenoming, it needs to bite for either a prolonged time, or repeatedly to work venom into a bite. However, a bite by this snake on the mouth, introduces another variable... this snake has poison glands – Nuchal gland(s) on the top of the neck, and it's possible your cat got some of the poison in its mouth I guess. No idea what the shot contained – if you can let me know, that would be great. Cheers!