

Accepted Manuscript

Centipede envenomation: Clinical importance and the underlying molecular mechanisms

Rose Ombati, Lei Luo, Shilong Yang, Ren Lai

PII: S0041-0101(18)30388-X

DOI: [10.1016/j.toxicon.2018.09.008](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.toxicon.2018.09.008)

Reference: TOXCON 5985

To appear in: *Toxicon*

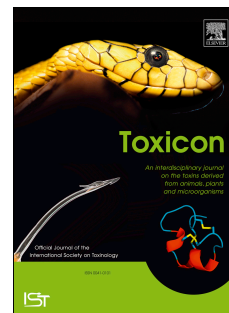
Received Date: 28 February 2018

Revised Date: 21 August 2018

Accepted Date: 25 September 2018

Please cite this article as: Ombati, R., Luo, L., Yang, S., Lai, R., Centipede envenomation: Clinical importance and the underlying molecular mechanisms, *Toxicon* (2018), doi: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.toxicon.2018.09.008>.

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1 **Centipede Envenomation: Clinical Importance and the Underlying Molecular**
2 **Mechanisms**

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4 Rose Ombati ^{a,b}, Lei Luo ^{a,b}, Shilong Yang ^{a*} & Ren Lai ^{a*}

5 ^a Key Laboratory of Animal Models and Human Disease Mechanisms of Chinese Academy of
6 Sciences/Key Laboratory of bioactive peptides of Yunnan Province, Kunming Institute of
7 Zoology, Kunming 650223, Yunnan, China.

8 ^b University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing 100049, China.
9

10 *Correspondence should be addressed to S.Y. (yangsl@mail.kiz.ac.cn) or to R.L.

11 (rlai@mail.kiz.ac.cn).
12

13 **Abstract**

14 Centipede bites are usually characterized by mildly to moderately painful encounters with
15 humans, however, they are relatively infrequent. The vast majority of centipede envenomations
16 do not cause severe symptoms and only in very rare cases more serious symptoms such as
17 myocardial ischemia and infarction, hematuria, hemoglobinuria, rhabdomyolysis, hemorrhage,
18 pruritus, eosinophilic cellulitis, as well as anaphylaxis are observed. More prevalent are
19 symptoms including pain, paresthesia, lethargy, localized necrosis, headache, dizziness and
20 nausea. The numerous symptoms and complications elicited by these envenomations indicate
21 that centipede venom possesses an arsenal of chemical components with functional diversity.
22 Centipede venom is a rich and complex natural source of bioactive proteins, peptides and other
23 small molecules that aid in predation or defense. The venom can induce myotoxic, cardiotoxic,

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