

**STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN RESOURCES**

**Rabies Surveillance, Management and  
Control Manual**

**Division of Infectious Disease Epidemiology and  
Environmental Health Procedures Manual**

**MEMORANDUM DISEASE CONTROL-FOUR**

**June, 2010**

WV DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN RESOURCES  
Division of Infectious Disease Epidemiology and  
Environmental Health Services Program Manual

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RABIES SURVEILLANCE MANAGEMENT and CONTROL MANUAL

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**RABIES SURVEILLANCE MANAGEMENT and CONTROL GUIDE**

**West Virginia Department of Health & Human Resources/Bureau for Public  
Health/Office of Epidemiology and Prevention Services/Division of  
Infectious Disease Epidemiology  
West Virginia Department of Health & Human Resources/Bureau for Public  
Health/Office of Environmental Health Services  
West Virginia Department of Health & Human Resources/Bureau for Public  
Health/Office of Laboratory Services  
United States Department of Agriculture/Animal & Plant Health Inspection  
Service/Wildlife Services  
West Virginia Division of Natural Resources  
West Virginia Department of Agriculture  
Greenbrier County Health Department/Environmental Health  
Lewis County Health Department  
Cabell-Huntington Health Department**

**I. Background**

Rabies in humans in the U.S. is a rare disease. Of 37 individuals dying of rabies in the United States between 1995 and 2006; 28 (75.7%) had bat-strain rabies, 8 (21.6%) had dog-strain, and 1 (2.7%) had eastern raccoon strain rabies. Of the 28 persons with bat-strain rabies, 4 (14%) individuals reported a bite, 4 (14%) individuals were infected as a result of organ transplant, and the mode of transmission was unknown in 20 (71%). All individuals with dog-strain rabies were exposed overseas. The source of exposure was unknown for the individual with raccoon strain rabies.

Rabies virus is widely distributed throughout every continent in the world. It is estimated that more than 55,000 people in the world die of rabies every year, usually after the bite of an infected dog. Ninety-five percent of rabies deaths occur in Africa or Asia.

Rabies is a viral disease that affects the nerve pathways of the central nervous system and produces encephalitis in warm blooded animals. All mammals are susceptible hosts for this virus. It is most frequently encountered among

carnivorous (meat-eating) animals because of their biting habits. The virus is ordinarily transmitted from a bite, e.g. animal to animal, or animal to humans. In the continental boundaries of the U.S., the chief vectors of this disease, in order of incidence, include raccoon, skunk, bat, fox, cat, and dog. In West Virginia, raccoons represent the major wildlife reservoir of rabies virus with spillover into other wildlife and domestic animals. Each year cats are found positive for rabies in West Virginia and, more uncommonly, dogs. Livestock including horses, cows and goats are on occasion also found to be rabies positive, particularly in areas of the state that are endemic for raccoon-strain rabies. In addition to these terrestrial reservoirs, several species of insectivorous bats are reservoirs for rabies.

Unvaccinated dogs and cats create serious problems by carrying rabies from wildlife into proximity with human populations. Even though rabies is relatively rare among dogs and cats, the control of stray, ownerless dogs and cats should be a major consideration in any rabies control and management program. Cats are the most commonly diagnosed companion or livestock species diagnosed with rabies in West Virginia. Between 2000 and 2007, 33 cats were detected with rabies.

An additional important preventive measure is a county or regional rabies immunization clinic for dogs and cats. It is required by law in the State of West Virginia to have every owned, kept or harbored dog and cat immunized against rabies at least every three years with an approved rabies virus vaccine (WVC19-20A-2; see Appendix I-3). For puppies and kittens the first vaccination must be completed by six months of age, with a booster dose administered within one year following the first dose.

The rabies virus is transmitted in the saliva of an infected animal. Rabies virus is transmitted from an infected animal to another animal by a bite or contamination of an open cut, wound or mucous membranes with saliva or CNS tissue containing rabies virus. The virus invades the mucous membranes or central nervous system by way of nerve pathways. After local proliferation of the virus, the infection progresses along peripheral nerves to the brain.

The incubation period is the time from exposure to onset of clinical disease. The incubation period may vary from a few days to several years, but is typically one to three months. The virus can infect and remain localized at the inoculation (bite) site for several months. Once the virus reaches the brain it multiplies rapidly and invades the salivary glands. During this period of cerebral infection, the classic behavioral changes associated with rabies develop. The virus can be found in saliva and neural tissues but not blood, nor feces nor the spray of a skunk. Not all brain infections are caused by the rabies virus. Therefore, it takes careful observation and diagnostic procedures by physicians and veterinarians to make accurate clinical diagnosis. A final diagnosis of rabies is based on laboratory examinations.

## **II. Definitions/Explanations**

### **Vector Species**

Vector species include bats or terrestrial mammals, especially carnivores. Wild species known to be reservoirs of rabies include, but are not limited to: raccoons, skunks, foxes, coyotes, bobcats, wolves or any hybrids between these wild species and domestic dogs and cats. Domestic species include, but are not limited to dogs, cats and ferrets.

Small rodents such as mice, rats, gerbils, hamsters, squirrels, chipmunks, etc. are almost never found to be rabid. Groundhogs are occasionally found to be rabid in areas where raccoon strain rabies is enzootic.

### **Human Exposure**

Any bite or scratch from a vector species or the introduction of saliva or central nervous system (CNS) tissue from a vector species into an open, fresh wound or mucous membrane (eye, mouth, or nose) of a human being.

The touching or handling of a vector species or another animal or inanimate object that had contact with a vector species does not constitute an exposure unless wet saliva or CNS material from the animal entered a fresh, open wound or had contact with a mucous membrane. A fresh wound is defined as a break in the skin that has bled within the last 24 hours.

### **Animal Exposure**

A bite or scratch from a vector species, or the introduction of saliva or CNS tissue from a vector species into a break in the skin or mucous membranes of a domestic animal. The actual witnessing of a bite or attack by a vector species is not required in order for an exposure to have occurred.

Any vector species which has exposed a domestic animal and is not available for laboratory testing should be presumed to be rabid. Domestic animals that bite other domestic animals are not usually considered as rabies suspects unless showing signs compatible with the disease.

When a female dog, cat or ferret or any of her litter of offspring are exposed to a rabid animal the entire family group should be treated as the exposed unit. Disposition, either confinement or euthanasia, should be recommended for the entire group.

## **Surveillance**

Surveillance has been defined as “the continued watchfulness over the distribution and trends of incidence [of a disease] through the systematic collection, consolidation, and evaluation of morbidity and mortality reports and other relevant data.” [Alexander Langmuir] Passive surveillance for rabies includes any animals that have exposed a human or domestic animal. Active surveillance includes both passive surveillance and testing of road kills, sick acting animals, and animals with other clinical signs of rabies. Active surveillance activities may occur when new cases of rabies are detected in an area that has not had previous detected cases. In West Virginia, active surveillance has been performed in counties on either side of the leading edge of the raccoon strain rabies epizootic for the purposes of correct placement of the oral rabies vaccine barrier.

## **Confinement**

The animal is housed in a building, pen or by some other suitable escape-proof method or enclosure. Tying the animal in an open yard is not adequate confinement. The animal cannot be removed from confinement unless on a leash and under the immediate control of a responsible adult. The animal may not be moved from the premises unless permission is obtained from the local health department. Under no circumstances should the animal be permitted to run at large during the confinement. At the first indication the animal is becoming ill it is the responsibility of the owner or custodian to notify the local health department and take the animal to a veterinarian for an examination. If rabies is suspected, the animal should be immediately euthanized and the brain submitted for rabies testing. To avoid misunderstanding, such instructions should be provided to the owner or custodian in writing. There are no established observation and confinement periods for any animals other than dogs, cats or ferrets.

## **Strict Isolation**

A kennel in a veterinary hospital, animal control facility, commercial boarding establishment, or a pen at home (see Appendix A) that prevents direct contact between the animal and any human or other animal, but allows for observation, feeding, watering and sanitation. The local Sanitarian is responsible for approving the adequacy of the isolation unit.

## **Currently Immunized Against Rabies**

A domestic animal is currently immunized against rabies if a certificate of vaccination is available that describes the animal adequately and documents that the animal received rabies vaccine approved by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) from a licensed veterinarian. The duration of immunity must

be adequate for the animal species and age as described on the USDA's approved vaccine label. In lieu of a vaccination certificate, the records of the attending veterinarian may suffice. A current list of licensed rabies vaccines marketed in the U.S. including recommended booster intervals are available in the national Association of State Public Health Veterinarians (NASPV)'s Compendium of Animal Rabies Prevention and Control. (<http://www.nasphv.org/Documents/RabiesCompendium.pdf>).

### **Signs of Rabies in Domestic Animals**

Signs of rabies in domesticated animals are varied. Two characteristic clinical conditions are noted when domestic animals are infected with rabies virus. These are usually evident as a change in "expected" behavior. In the dumb form of rabies, the animal may become unusually shy or hide and become very approachable. This may be followed by sluggishness, confusion and depression. In the furious form of rabies, the animal may become excitable, irritable and aggressive. At times it may seem confused and calm, then suddenly attack when approached. It may lose all caution for natural enemies. Other signs may include: staggering, weakness and paralysis, a change in the sound of the animal's voice, inability to eat or drink, drooling, convulsions (seizures), paralysis, coma and frothing at the mouth. The virus is lethal and animals with these signs usually die within a matter of days.

### **Signs of Rabies in Wildlife**

An animal may be infected with the rabies virus for a long time before it shows clinical signs. This period may range from weeks to years; most commonly weeks to months, depending on the location of the bite, severity of bite, amount and strain of virus introduced from a rabid animal and other variables. Wild animals may show signs which include: aggression, unusual friendliness, disorientation, paralysis, whining, drooling, choking and frothing at the mouth. On occasion rabid wildlife will attack inanimate objects (e.g. a ground hog attacking a shovel left outside).

### **III. Management of Human Exposures (See Definitions and Explanations)**

#### A. Legal Citations:

§19-20-9a. Dogs, cats, etc.; rabies observation. (West Virginia State Code, WV Department of Agriculture)

(a) Any person who owns or harbors any dog, cat or other domesticated animal, whether licensed or unlicensed, which bites any person, shall forthwith confine and quarantine the animal for a period of ten days for rabies observation.

(c) If the animal is not confined and quarantined as directed in subsections (a) ... of this section, the humane officer, dog warden or sheriff may cause the animal to be placed in the custody and care of a licensed veterinarian for that purpose at the owner's expense. The penalty for any violation of this section is a fine of fifty dollars or confinement in the county or regional jail for a period of no less than two nor more than three days.

64 CSR7-5.3. (Legislative rule, WVDHHR) If the animal is a domestic dog, cat or ferret, the local health officer shall make a reasonable attempt to determine the animal's owner, and, if successful, shall direct the owner to confine the animal for a period of ten days. The owner of the dog cat or ferret, county humane officer, dog warden or sheriff shall notify the local health officer immediately if the animal shows symptoms compatible with rabies or dies, and the local health officer, county humane officer, dog warden or sheriff shall arrange for appropriate examination of the animal's brain at the office of laboratory services.

64 CSR7-5.4. If the local health officer cannot determine the owner of the domestic dog cat or ferret, he or she shall direct the county humane officer, dog warden or sheriff to pick up the suspect dog cat or ferret, that has bitten a person and confine it in isolation for a period of ten days. If the animal shows symptoms compatible with rabies, including if the animal bit someone without provocation, or if the animal demonstrates aggressive behavior toward human beings such that the animal may pose a continuing risk to other people, the local health officer shall direct the county humane officer, dog warden, sheriff, or other designee to humanely destroy the animal and arrange for appropriate examination of the animal's brain. If the animal dies, the local health officer shall arrange for appropriate examination of the animal's brain at the office of laboratory services.

65 CSR-7-5.5. If a person is reported bitten by any animal having or suspected of having rabies other than a domestic dog cat or ferret, especially a wild mammal or hybrid, the local health officer may direct the county humane officer, dog warden, sheriff, or other designee to have the animal humanely destroyed immediately and to arrange for appropriate examination of the animal's brain at the office of laboratory services.



B. Owned Companion Animals (dogs, cats or ferrets):

Any person who owns or harbors any dog, cat or ferret, whether licensed or unlicensed, which bites any person, shall ... confine ... the animal for a period of 10 days for rabies observation (West Virginia code 19-20-9a). A Notice of Animal Quarantine, Form SG-59 (see Appendix H) shall be issued by the local health officer or his designee (64CSR7).

In some situations, immediate euthanasia and testing of the animal(s) may be preferable including when: a) there is a severe bite on the head, face, neck or hands, b) there are severe bites resulting in hospitalization or death, or c) the animal has a past history of biting.

The animal shall not be killed, sold, released or given away during the quarantine period. Administration of the rabies vaccine is not recommended during the observation period. Any illness in the animal should be reported immediately to the local health department. If signs suggestive of rabies develop, the animal should be euthanized and its head submitted for rabies examination to the Office of Laboratory Services (OLS).

If the suspect animal is not confined as directed, the humane officer, dog warden or sheriff may cause the animal to be placed in the custody and care of a licensed veterinarian for that purpose at the owner(s) expense and can fine/imprison the owner (19-20-9c).

C. Stray Dogs, Cats or Ferrets:

If the dog, cat or ferret responsible for the bite and/or exposure has no known owner (i.e., no one in the community who harbors or maintains the animal), the local health officer shall direct the county humane officer, dog warden or sheriff to confine the suspect animal for a period of 10 days for rabies observation. A Notice of Animal Quarantine, Form SG-59 (Appendix H) shall be issued by the local health officer or his designee. If symptoms of rabies develop, the animal shall be humanely euthanized and tested. If the animal dies its head should be immediately submitted for testing at OLS. (64CSR7-5.4).

In some situations, immediate euthanasia and testing of the animal may be preferable, especially when: a) there is a severe bite on the head, face, neck or hands; b) there are severe bites resulting in hospitalization or death; c) the animal has a past history of biting; or d) the animal will not have an owner at the end of the 10-day quarantine period.

If the animal is not available for either quarantine or laboratory testing, the attending physician (as necessary, with the assistance from the local or state health departments) should evaluate the level and type of animal exposure in

determining the need for rabies post exposure prophylaxis (PEP). The decision to start any immunization regimen rests between the physician and the patient.

D. Other Mammals Owned and Kept as Pets (e.g., hamsters, gerbils, rats, mice, rabbits, guinea pigs, etc.):

An approved rabies vaccine is not available for small rodents and they are generally considered low risk for rabies transmission. These animals are not considered a risk unless acting abnormally and/or housed in a manner allowing potential contact with mammalian wildlife; especially established wildlife rabies vectors. Ordinarily, persons bitten by small rodents should be counseled that risk is low. If the bite victim is anxious about the risk, testing is available through the Office of Laboratory Services, but it is not necessary. There is no observation period for small rodents.

Other classes of owned animals kept as pets (e.g., birds, reptiles, amphibians, fish and invertebrates) present no risk for rabies transmission.

E. Exotic Pets

There is no established rabies observation period for any animal other than a dog, cat or ferret. When a person is bitten by an exotic pet, many factors should be considered. These include: apparent health status of animal, type of pet, whether it is a rare or zoological collection mammal, whether its behavior is normal, history of exposure and whether the area is endemic or not for rabies. These circumstances should be handled on a case-by-case situation and DIDE should be consulted for guidance.

F. Monkeys

Monkeys by nature are dangerous and even seasoned handlers and menagerie owners are often bitten by animals that have been maintained in captivity for years. Monkeys which have been housed indoors for long periods and have no known exposure to rabies vector species are unlikely to have the rabies virus. Animals housed outdoors or otherwise have intermittent access to the outside have increased likelihood of exposure to rabies vector species. Hence, consideration for rabies post exposure treatment and/or testing of captive monkeys should take into account historical husbandry conditions.

If rabies is a concern the monkey should be euthanized and tested. There is no rabies observation period for monkeys. If the owner declines testing and rabies is a concern, PEP should be recommended.

A separate danger of monkey bites is B virus (*Cercopithecine herpesvirus 1*) infection. B virus may result in encephalomyelitis in humans with a case fatality rate approaching 80 percent. This is a relatively rare infection in humans and is

commonly found among more than 19 species of macaque monkeys. A confirmed bite or scratch or exposure to saliva or genital secretions of a macaque monkey should prompt an immediate consult to DIDE. See appendix K for the management algorithm.

Keeping monkeys as pets, including macaques, should be discouraged. Only experienced and trained caretakers with proper personal protective equipment and training should care for monkeys for research and other medical settings.

#### G. Livestock

Livestock such as cattle, horses, sheep, goats and pigs, are not high risk for transmitting rabies. When a person is bitten by livestock, many factors should be considered. If the animal is healthy, its behavior is normal, there is no history of exposure, and the area is not endemic for rabies, it may be reasonable to keep the animal under 10 – 14 days observation (although the shedding period of virus in the saliva is unknown in livestock). Otherwise, euthanasia and testing of the animal or PEP of the person should be considered. West Virginia Agriculture Law 19-9-30 states the commissioner or his agent shall act as appraiser and appraise each infected or directly exposed animal within five days prior to the date of slaughter provided, however, that where indemnities are claimed for directly exposed animals slaughtered on account of being infected with rabies, appraisal shall be based on the value of the animal before it became infected. West Virginia Agriculture law 19-9-2(h) states it shall be the duty of the commissioner, and he shall have authority to cause the destruction of diseased animals, when such animals are deemed diseased as a result of physical examination or an approved test, and of infected personal property, and to regulate and prohibit the moving or transportation of such animals or property from one place to another in this State.

#### H. Mammalian Wildlife (e.g., raccoons, foxes, skunks, coyotes, bobcats, bats and other)

If a human is exposed (see definition above) to a wild mammal or hybrid offspring of wild animals crossbred to domestic animals or exotic animals, the local health department shall be notified as soon as possible. Animals in these categories should be euthanized immediately and the head should be submitted to the Office of Laboratory Services for rabies examination (64CSR7-5.5).

Because of the risk of rabies among wild animals, such as raccoons, skunks, bobcats, foxes and coyotes, the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA), National Association of State Public Health Veterinarians (NASPHV), and the Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE) strongly recommend enactment of state laws prohibiting the importation, distribution, relocation, or keeping of wild animals or hybrids as pets. The incubation period and number of days rabies virus is shed in the saliva, prior to onset of clinical

signs, are unknown for wild and exotic animals. Infected animals can transmit the rabies virus not only while clinically sick but also for an indeterminate number of days before clinical signs become apparent. It is never appropriate to confine and observe wild or exotic animals that are involved in a human bite and/or exposure incident.

When responding to citizen inquiries or situations regarding wild animals, the sanitarian, law enforcement officer or wildlife biologist should determine, to the extent possible, if there has been human, pet or livestock exposure. Road kills or wild animals having no known contact with humans, pets or livestock should be buried or incinerated, except within counties participating in active rabies surveillance. In these counties brainstems should be submitted for testing.

Note: Persons involved with the head removal should follow the self- protection guidelines in Appendix B; which includes pre-exposure rabies vaccination.

#### I. Bats

A bat that is active by day, is found in a place where bats are not usually seen (for example, in a room in your home or on the lawn) or is unable to fly is far more likely than others to be rabid. Such bats are often easily approached. Therefore, it is best never to handle any bat. If you are bitten or scratched by a bat or if infectious material (saliva) from a bat contacts your eyes, nose, mouth or a fresh wound; wash the affected area thoroughly and get medical advice immediately. Whenever possible, the bat should be captured without further risk of human exposure and submitted for rabies testing. Rabies can only be confirmed in a laboratory. Most bats are not rabid and they fill an important part of the ecosystem through consumption of mosquitoes and other insects.

People usually know when they have been bitten or scratched by a bat. However, since bats have small teeth which may leave marks that are not easily seen, there are situations in which medical advice should be sought even in the absence of an obvious wound. Examples may include awakening and finding a bat in your room, seeing a bat in the room with an unattended child or seeing a bat near a mentally impaired or intoxicated person.

People cannot get rabies just from seeing a bat in an attic, in a cave or at a distance. In addition, persons cannot get rabies from having contact with bat guano (feces), blood or urine or from touching a bat on its fur.

More than 11 million people enjoy camping each year in the U.S. and few individuals will ever be exposed to a rabies-suspect animal, including bats or need medical intervention due to a potential exposure while camping. To date, no human rabies cases due to bats in the U.S. have implicated camping as a risk factor for an unrecognized exposure. In many camp situations, the mere presence or sighting of bats is common and normal. If bats were present while

campers were sleeping, careful assessment by local or state public health professionals of the potential for rabies exposure on a case-by-case basis should occur. Campers who may have been bitten by a bat or had direct contact with a bat need to be identified for appropriate evaluation, and if needed, vaccinated to prevent rabies.

## **IV. Human Exposure Records**

### **A. Reporting by Physicians**

Every person bitten or scratched by any animal (including bats) should consult a physician and be guided by their advice. If indicated, the physician may treat the patient to prevent:

1. wound infection,
2. septicemia (blood infection),
3. tetanus (lock jaw) or
4. rabies (hydrophobia).

The physician or staff attending the victim of an animal bite or exposure must contact the local health officer within 24 hours in accordance with 64CSR7-5., and submit an Animal Encounter Report (see Appendix G) so that the local health department (LHD) may take proper measures to protect others in the community. Alternatively, the physician may submit the provider (yellow) section of the WVEDSS form.

### **B. Use of WVEDSS for Reporting Potential Rabies**

The local health department should use the West Virginia Electronic Disease Surveillance System (WVEDSS) to keep an individual case record of each potential human rabies exposure. If resident of another state – do not enter WVEDSS, contact resident state of victim to report the case or contact DIDE for interstate notification.

### **C. Case Definition:**

Before entering a potential rabies exposure in WVEDSS, determine if the case definition for exposure is met:

#### **Human Exposure**

A bite or scratch from a vector species or the introduction of saliva or central nervous system (CNS) tissue from a vector species into an open, fresh wound or mucous membrane ( eye, mouth, or nose) of a human being.

#### **Vector Species**

Species include bats or terrestrial mammals, especially carnivores. *Wild species* known to be reservoirs of rabies include, but are not limited to, raccoons, skunks, foxes, coyotes, bobcats, wolves, or any hybrids between these wild species and domestic dogs and cats.

*Domestic species* include, but are not limited to, dogs, cats, and ferrets.

### Case Classification

Confirmed: Human exposure from a vector species as defined above.

### Comment

Touching or handling a potentially rabid animal or another animal or inanimate object that had contact with a rabid animal does not constitute an exposure unless wet saliva or CNS material from the rabid animal was introduced into a fresh, open wound or had contact with a mucous membrane of a human being.

Bats have small teeth which may leave marks that are not easily seen; so any contact with a bat in which a bite cannot be ruled out, is considered a potential exposure to rabies. A person sleeping in a room with a bat or finding a bat in the room with an unattended child, mentally impaired or intoxicated person, are examples of possible exposures.

### D. Cases that Should Not be Reported in WVEDSS:

The following types of cases should not be reported in WVEDSS:

1. Exposure of a human being to non-mammalian species (reptile, bird, amphibian, etc.).
2. Exposure of an animal (e.g., dog or cat) to a potentially rabid animal (e.g., raccoon).
3. Non-exposures, such as touching an animal's fur, picking up an animal, or contact with blood or feces of an animal.

### E. Reporting Requirements in WVEDSS: If the case is reported in WVEDSS, record at a minimum:

1. Identification data for the victim:
  - a. Name
  - b. Date of birth
  - c. Sex
  - d. Address
  - e. Phone number
2. Provider with Further Patient Information:
  - a. Name of provider
  - b. Contact information for the provider
3. Circumstances of Bite / Exposure.
  - a. Date of Bite / Exposure
  - b. Type of Exposure. Indicate bite, scratch, mucous membrane exposure, etc. Animal encounters that are not exposures (e.g., touching the fur of an animal) should not be reported in WVEDSS.
  - c. Location of Bite / Exposure
  - d. Was Rabies Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) initiated?
  - e. Species of animal. Indicate the species such as dog, cat, bat, raccoon, etc. Exposures to non-mammalian species should

- not be reported in WVEDSS.
- f. Pet, stray or wild
  - g. These variables are important for judging the risk of rabies from the animal encounter:
    - 1. Was the bite? (provoked or unprovoked)
    - 2. Was the animal behaving? (normally, abnormally)
    - 3. Was the patient hospitalized for the bite?
    - 4. How long before wound(s) cleansed with soap and water?
4. Public Health Investigation and Public Health Action Taken: In these sections, document public health management of the animal and counseling and recommendation offered to the victim:
- a. If the animal is confined, document:
    - 1. Final status of animal after 10 day confinement
    - 2. Date completed and checked.
    - 3. If the animal escapes or is lost to follow-up or is not healthy 10 days after the exposure, document action taken, including counseling offered to the bite victim and recommendations regarding post-exposure vaccination, if appropriate.
  - b. If the animal is tested, document:
    - 1. Test results and date
    - 2. If the test result is positive, unsatisfactory or non-diagnostic, document action taken, including counseling offered to the victim and recommendations regarding post-exposure vaccination, if appropriate.
  - c. If the animal encounter is considered low risk, and neither testing nor confinement is performed, document:
    - 1. Reasons animal encounter is considered low risk, and
    - 2. Counseling / education offered to the victim
  - d. Patient's Post-Exposure Vaccination
  - e. All attempts to contact the bite victim should be recorded.
5. Review Process: Once the case is completed in WVEDSS, it must be forwarded to the Regional Epidemiologist for review prior to sending to the Division of Infectious Disease Epidemiology (DIDE) for evaluation and closure.



## **V. Management of Animal Exposures (See Definitions)**

**Any animal bitten or scratched by a wild, carnivorous mammal (or a bat) which is not available for testing should be regarded as having been exposed to rabies.**

### A. Legal Citation:

§19-20-9a. Dogs, cats, etc.; rabies observation....

(b) If any unvaccinated domesticated animal is bitten by a rabid animal, the owner shall confine the bitten animal for a period of six months. The animal shall be vaccinated or revaccinated after five months.

(c) If the animal is not confined and quarantined as directed in subsections ... (b) of this section, the humane officer, dog warden or sheriff may cause the animal to be placed in the custody and care of a licensed veterinarian for that purpose at the owner's expense. The penalty for any violation of this section is a fine of fifty dollars or confinement in the county or regional jail for a period of no less than two nor more than three days.

### B. Vaccinated Dogs, Cats and Ferrets

Any healthy, vaccinated dog, cat or ferret that is exposed to a proven or suspected rabid animal should be re-vaccinated immediately by a licensed veterinarian, confined, and observed for 45 days. Any sign of illness should be immediately evaluated by a veterinarian. If signs of rabies develop, the animal should be humanely euthanized and tested. If the animal dies, its head should be immediately submitted for testing at OLS. NOTE: The most important post-exposure action is insuring that a booster vaccination is obtained immediately.

### C. Unvaccinated Dogs, Cats or Ferrets

Any unvaccinated dog, cat or ferret that is exposed to a proven or suspected rabid animal should be euthanized immediately, unless the exposing animal tests negative for rabies. If the owner of an exposed dog, cat or ferret is unwilling to euthanize it, the animal shall be placed in strict isolation (see definitions) for six months and vaccinated upon entry or one month prior to release. Any sign of illness should be immediately evaluated by a veterinarian. If symptoms of rabies develop, the animal should be humanely euthanized and tested, or if the animal dies, its head should be immediately submitted for testing at OLS.

### D. Dogs, Cats or Ferrets with Expired Vaccinations

Any dog, cat or ferret overdue for a booster vaccination needs to be evaluated on a case-by-case basis taking into account the severity of exposure, time elapsed since last vaccination, number of previous vaccinations, current health status,

and local rabies epidemiology. Questions should be discussed with the epidemiologists at the WVDHHR, Division of Infectious Disease Epidemiology.

#### E. Livestock

All species of livestock are susceptible to rabies; cattle and horses are among the most frequently infected. A legal quarantine requires coordination with the West Virginia Department of Agriculture, Division of Animal Health at (304) 558-2214. West Virginia Agriculture Law 19-9-30 states the commissioner or his agent shall act as appraiser and appraise each infected or directly exposed animal within five days prior to the date of slaughter provided; however, that where indemnities are claimed for directly exposed animals slaughtered on account of being infected with rabies, appraisal shall be based on the value of the animal before it became infected. West Virginia Agriculture law states, "It shall be the duty of the Commissioner and he shall have the authority to cause destruction of diseased animals." ref. 19-9-2 (for slaughter).

#### Vaccinated Livestock

Livestock currently vaccinated with a vaccine approved by the USDA for that species, exposed to a rabid animal, should be re-vaccinated immediately, confined (in a manner routine for that species) and observed for signs of rabies for 45 days. Multiple rabid animals in a herd or herbivore-to-herbivore transmission are uncommon; therefore, restricting the rest of the herd if a single animal has been exposed to or infected by rabies is usually not necessary.

#### Unvaccinated Livestock

Unvaccinated livestock should be slaughtered immediately. If the owner is unwilling to comply, the animal should be confined and kept under close observation for six months and the animal shall be vaccinated after five months. Refer 19-20-9(a) for slaughter.

If an exposed animal is to be slaughtered for consumption, it should be done immediately after exposure, and all tissues should be cooked thoroughly. Persons handling exposed animals should use barrier precautions. Federal meat inspectors will reject for slaughter any animal known to have been exposed to rabies within the previous 8 months.

Neither tissues nor milk from a rabid animal should be used for human or animal consumption. However, since pasteurization temperatures inactivate the rabies virus, drinking pasteurized milk or eating adequately cooked meat does not constitute a rabies exposure.

Having more than one rabid animal in a herd or having herbivore to herbivore transmission of rabies is uncommon; therefore, restricting the rest of the herd if a single animal has been exposed to or infected by rabies is usually not necessary. For assistance, please contact the Division of Infectious Disease Epidemiology and/or the West Virginia Department of Agriculture.

#### F. Wild or Exotic Animals

The efficacy of injectable rabies vaccination of wildlife and hybrids (the offspring of wild animals' crossbred to domestic animals) has not been established, and no such vaccine is licensed for these animals. Wild or exotic animals bitten by a rabid animal should be euthanized immediately. Zoos or research institutions may establish vaccination programs which attempt to protect valuable animals, but these should not replace appropriate public health activities to protect humans from rabies exposures. Employees who work with animals at such facilities should receive pre-exposure rabies immunization. The use of pre- and post-exposure rabies vaccinations for employees who work with animals at such facilities might reduce the need for euthanasia of captive animals.

## **VI. Animal Exposure Records**

Local Health Departments should maintain written records of animal exposures according to local agency policies and procedures. Questions about management of animal exposures may be referred to DIDE. Rabies exposures of animals should not be reported in WVEDSS.

## **VII. Laboratory Analysis of Rabies Specimens**

Wild animal specimens should only be submitted for analysis when humans, pets or livestock have been exposed. For domesticated animals, it is recommended that head removal be accomplished by a licensed veterinarian. In the case of large animals (cows, horses, sheep, pigs, etc.) the brain must be removed by a veterinarian when the head of the animal is too large to ship. If the services of a veterinarian are not available, persons involved with the head removal should follow self-protection guidelines associated with any infectious disease and should be pre-immunized against rabies.

If ectoparasites are evident (including fly larvae) on an animal head prior to the health department receiving it, it is suggested that prior to packaging the specimen, it should be sprayed with insecticide. Consult with laboratory staff for other unusual circumstances when dealing with specimens. Previously buried animals are not allowed for rabies testing. (Consult Appendix F: WVDHHR OLS Policy of Acceptance for Rabies Specimens).

Care must be taken in the preparation and handling of all suspect specimens for shipping to the Office of Laboratory Services. Ideally, specimens should NOT be frozen and should be maintained at refrigerated temperatures. Freezing of a specimen does not necessarily exclude it from rabies testing. Consult Appendix D for instructions. If the only specimen available is frozen, ship the specimen without ice packs to allow thawing before arrival at OLS. It is possible that frozen samples may take an extra day for testing if not completely thawed upon arrival.

NOTE: Specimens stored in automatic defrost freezers are more susceptible to degradation as a result of multiple freeze-thaw cycles. If a specimen must be frozen, store in a manual defrost freezer such as a chest freezer. Consult OLS if specimen handling and quality issues are not addressed in the appendices.

## **Appendices**

- A. Isolation Pen for Unvaccinated Dogs and Cats Exposed to Rabies
- B. Self-Protection Guidelines
- C. Resources for Obtaining Rabies Immune Titers
- D. WVDHHR OLS Rabies Specimen Submission Instructions
- E. OLS Rabies Laboratory Submission Form
  - E-1 Specimen Submission Form Completed for Human Exposure
  - E-2 Specimen Submission Form Completed for Pet/Domestic Animal Exposure
  - E-3 Specimen Submission Form Completed for Active Surveillance
- F. WVDHHR OLS Policy for Acceptance of Rabies Specimens
- G. Animal Encounter Report (SG-58)
- H. Notice of Animal Quarantine (SG-59)
- I. Government Agency Regulations
  - I-1 WVDHHR (Reporting of Animal Bites)
  - I-2 WV Department of Agriculture (Chapter 19, Article 9: Diseases Among Domestic Animals)
  - I-3 WV Department of Agriculture (Chapter 19, Article 20: Dogs and Cats)
  - I-4 Chapter 20 Natural Resources
- J. Agency Roles and Responsibilities and Contact Information
  - J-1 Local Health Department
  - J-2 OEHS Public Health Sanitation Division
  - J-3 WVDA
  - J-4 WVDHHR
  - J-5 USDA-APHIS-Wildlife Services
  - J-6 County Sheriff
  - J-7 WVDNR
- K. Assessment of Herpes B Transmission Risk from a Monkey Bite

## Appendix A

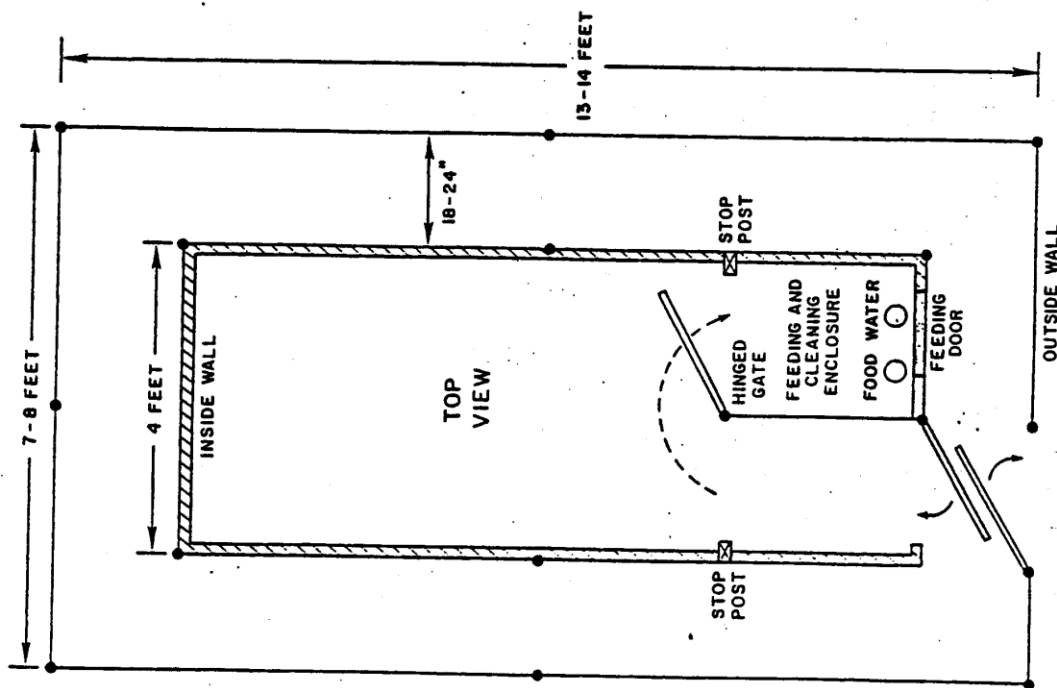
### ISOLATION PEN FOR UNVACCINATED DOGS AND CATS EXPOSED TO RABIES Minimum Construction Detail adapted 8/89 from original by Douglas Hubbard

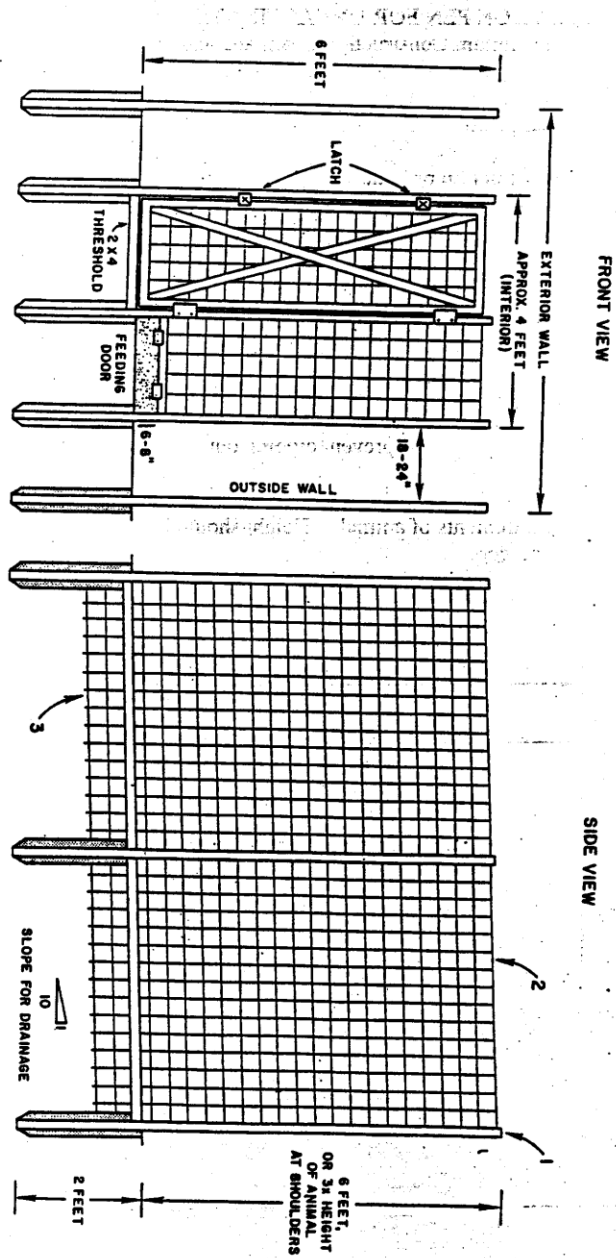
Scale 1:20

Construction provides:

- A. Double enclosure to prevent escape and direct contact with people or other animals.
- B. Feeding enclosure and door to allow for feeding without direct contact of animal and handler and to provide confinement of animal during cleaning.
- C. L-shaped metal plates or extension of wire fencing buried to prevent digging out.

Overall length and width are approximate and may vary depending on requirements of animal. Height should be 3x the height of the animal at the shoulders.





Scale: 1:20

- 1 = 4" X 4" posts, pressure treated or equivalent, driven or set in concrete.
- 2 = Wire, chain link, 2" X 2" hardware cloth (welded) or
- 3 = L-shaped metal plates or wire bent at 90° angle for 12-18" and buried 4-6" below surface of ground to prevent digging out.



## **Appendix B**

### **Self-Protection Guidelines**

Avoid direct skin or mucous membrane contact with the suspected animal and its body fluids before, during, and after removal of the head.

To minimize contact use the following Universal Protection Precautions:

- A. Avoid splattering blood, etc.; wear a plastic apron or other suitable removable outer garment such as coveralls; wear rubber gloves and a face mask and safety goggles or face shield.
- B. All instruments and tools coming in contact with the suspected animal should be disinfected with bleach immediately after use.
- C. Protective clothing and gloves should be discarded in a plastic bag or other enclosed container or washed in a 10% bleach solution or other suitable disinfectant.
- D. The surface area used for the head removal should be disinfected immediately using a 10% bleach solution or other suitable disinfectant.
- E. If a self inflicted cut or wound occurs during the removal of the head, the wound should be cleaned with soap and water and a physician consulted as soon as possible.

Sanitarians who will be removing animal heads or doing brainstem extractions should have pre-exposure vaccination. Thereafter, their rabies titers should be checked every 2 years (see Appendix D) and re-booster as necessary.

## Appendix C

### Resources for Obtaining Rabies Immune Titers

#### Atlantic Health Associates

**Services offered:** Rabies Neutralizing Antibody Testing using the Rapid Fluorescent Focus Inhibition Test (RFFIT) for both human and animal specimens

#### Contact Information:

rnewhouse@atlantahealth.net  
Tel: (770)205-9091  
Toll Free: (800)717-5612  
Fax: (770)205-9021

Mailing Address:  
Atlanta Health Associates, Inc.  
309 Pirkle Ferry Road, Suite D300  
Cumming, Georgia 30040

[www.atlantahealth.net](http://www.atlantahealth.net)

#### Kansas State Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory

**Services offered:** Serologic testing of humans, serologic testing of animals for export to rabies free countries

#### Contact Information:

Diagnostic Laboratory Office      Phone: 866-512-5650  
Email: [dlaboffice@vet.k-state.edu](mailto:dlaboffice@vet.k-state.edu)  
Fax: 785-532-4481

Mailing Address:  
Kansas State Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory  
1800 Denison Avenue  
Manhattan, KS 66506-5606

<http://www.vet.ksu.edu/depts/dmp/service/rabies/index.htm>

## Appendix D

### OFFICE OF LABORATORY SERVICES MICROBIOLOGY SECTION RABIES UNIT RABIES TESTING GUIDANCE DOCUMENT

#### TYPES OF SPECIMENS

1. BURIED ANIMALS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED FOR TESTING.
  - a. Small animals such as bats or small rodents can be sent whole. The sender should ensure that smaller animals are dead before shipping the specimen to the OLS Rabies Unit.
  - b. Severed head of moderate-sized animal.
  - c. Brain only of larger size animal such as a cow.

#### NOTE:

The services of a veterinarian should be used to sever the heads or the remove the brains of suspect animals immediately after the animal's death. Specimen should be submitted to the OLS Rabies Unit NO LATER THAN 48 hours after removal of head.

#### RABIES SPECIMEN MAILING BOXES

Specimen Mailing Boxes are provided to County Health Departments, Veterinarian clinics, and the West Virginia Department of Natural Resources. Each consists of the following:

**2 PLASTIC BAGS:** Specimen should be placed in a plastic bag and then placed in the second bag to ensure that no fluids will contaminate the box or leak out of the container. Both bags should be tied to prevent leakage.

**VINYL ZIPPER BAG:** Double bagged specimen should be placed in the zipper bag to serve as added to protection against any leaks.

**2 REFRIGERANTS:** Two refrigerants or ice packs should be placed in zipper bag near specimen. Placing the ice packs in the zipper bag will ensure that any leakage will be contained if the refrigerants were to rupture.

**TEST REQUEST/SUBMISSION FORM:** Please provide all information requested on the Test Request/Specimen Submission form. When completed, the form should be placed on the lid of the mailing box, away from the specimen.

**OUTER MAILING BOX:** The outer box has a white label which states:  
PROPERTY OF THE OFFICE OF LABORATORY SERVICES/167 11th  
AVENUE/SOUTH CHARLESTON, WV 25303.

**PRE-ADDRESSED LABEL:** After the specimen is properly packaged. The box should be taped closed and the pre-addressed label should be affixed to the outside of the box.

**UN3373 LABEL DIAGNOSTIC:** Affix UN3373 Biological Specimen label to the outside of the box.

NOTE: Newspaper or any absorbent material can be used to prevent smaller samples from shifting inside the container. **DO NOT USE STYROFOAM PEANUTS OR SHREDDED PAPER TO PACK SPECIMEN.** In the event of a specimen leak, the peanuts or shredded paper would pose a larger contamination threat to the technician.

### **SPECIMEN SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

1. Notify the OLS Rabies Unit in advance regarding submission of specimen. It is important to inform the technician what type of exposure was involved (Human or pet).
2. The kit is designed to hold the severed head of moderate-size animals. It can also serve to hold the BRAIN ONLY of larger-size animals such as a cow, horse, etc. OLS strongly recommends using only the boxes provided.
3. Complete all the required information LEGIBLY on the Rabies Test Request/Specimen Submission Form.
4. No living animals will be accepted for Rabies testing. Smaller animals involved in an exposure should be euthanized HUMANELY.
5. Specimens brought to the OLS after work hours can be placed in the dock refrigerator. The Rabies Unit must be notified prior to placing any specimen in the dock refrigerator.
6. Call the Rabies Unit if you have any questions.

### **SHIPPING**

Rabies specimens are considered 'Category B' and are to be shipped following IATA Packing Instruction 650. All specimens packaged in the provided Rabies Mailing Box can be sent by the United State Postal Service (USPS), United Parcel Services (UPS) or any other carrier that accepts diagnostic specimens **AS LONG AS** the proper labeling is placed in a visible area of the shipping container. **BIOHAZARD LABELS SHOULD NOT BE PLACED ON THE OUTSIDE OF THE SHIPING CONTAINER.**

### **VACCINATION RECOMMENDATIONS**

Any questions concerning vaccination recommendations should be addressed to:  
DIVISION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE EPIDEMIOLOGY  
(304) 558-5358 -or- 1-800-423-1271 (In West Virginia only)

### **RABIES UNIT CONTACT INFORMATION**

Work Hours | Monday through Friday from 8:00am to 4:30pm  
(OLS observes all State and Federal holidays.)  
Phone | (304) 558-3530 extension(s) 2611 / 2613 / 2602  
Fax | (304) 558-6210  
Pager | (304) 361-9066  
(after Work Hours on weekdays, weekends, or holidays)

## RABIES SPECIMEN COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS



1. Kit Contents: Vinyl Zipper Bag, History Form, 2 Plastic Bags, 2 Ice Packs, Return Address Label, UN 3373 Label
2. Animal Head is Double Bagged.
3. Place double bagged specimen in Vinyl Zipper Bag.
4. Place 2 frozen Ice Packs around Double Bagged Specimen. DO NOT PLACE ICE PACKS IN DIRECT CONTACT WITH SPECIMEN.
5. Place "zipped" Vinyl Zipper Bag in Rabies box with History Form placed on top of the box; AWAY FROM THE CONTAINED SPECIMEN. DO NOT place Biohazard sticker on outside of box. Biohazard sticker should be placed on inner lid.
6. Place completed Return Address and affix to the label and UN 3373 DIAGNOSTIC SPECIMEN label to the outer box and ship Regular Mail to the OLS, Rabies Unit.

**GLOVES SHOULD ALWAYS BE WORN WHEN HANDLING SPECIMEN. HANDS SHOULD BE WASHED THOROUGHLY AFTER PACKAGING AND AREA DECONTAMINATED WITH 10% BLEACH.**

All specimen **MUST** have the head removed before shipping. EXCEPTIONS: Bats and small rodents.

Specimen too large for shipping **MUST** have brain removed before submission. Examples: cow, pig, horse, deer, goat, sheep and etc. The OLS does not have the means of discarding large animal specimens.

History form should be filled out as complete as possible. The form should contain AT LEAST:

- Type of animal
- County
- Type of exposure. IF Human Exposure: Name of exposed and type (Bite, Scratch)
- Address for mailing results INCLUDING submitter's telephone number

Please notify the Rabies Unit **before** submitting specimen.

Office of Laboratory Services • Rabies Unit  
167 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue • South Charleston, WV 25303  
(304) 558-3530 x2811 fax: (304) 558-8210

# Appendix E



**OFFICE OF LABORATORY SERVICES**

Andrea M. Labik, Sc.D. / Director  
 167 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
 South Charleston, WV 25303  
 (304) 558-3530  
 fax (304) 558-2006 or 6210

PLACE BARCODE HERE

OLS USE ONLY

## RABIES LABORATORY SPECIMEN SUBMISSION FORM

**SUBMITTER INFORMATION**

FACILITY NAME	MAILING ADDRESS		
COUNTY	CITY	STATE	ZIP
ATTENTION TO:	BUSINESS HOURS PHONE NO.		
FAX NO.	AFTER HOURS PHONE NO.		

Species	If a domestic animal, what is current vaccination status? <input type="checkbox"/> Current <input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Expired <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	DATE COLLECTED
Date of Animal Death:	How did animal die?	Was the animal buried before brain removal? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Animal Wild or Owned? <input type="checkbox"/> Not Owned/Wild/Stray <input type="checkbox"/> Owned (Name of Owner _____)		Phone # of Owner
Address Where Found	City	State      Zip
County Where Found	GIS Coordinates Latitude _____ Longitude _____	
Name of Person Sample Received From:		Telephone
Occupation (check ONE only): <input type="checkbox"/> Animal Control Officer <input type="checkbox"/> Veterinarian <input type="checkbox"/> Police <input type="checkbox"/> Wildlife Officer <input type="checkbox"/> Private Citizen <input type="checkbox"/> County Health Official <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____		
Reason for Testing (Check ALL That Apply): <input type="checkbox"/> Human Exposure <input type="checkbox"/> Other      Surveillance: <input type="checkbox"/> Pet/Domestic Animal Exposure (Specify: _____) <input type="checkbox"/> Found Dead/Roadkill <input type="checkbox"/> Odd Behavior		
<b>COMPLETE FOR ORAL RABIES VACCINATION PROGRAM ONLY</b>		
Animal Number _____   Data Collected By (County) _____   Brainstem Specimen Collected By (County) _____		
<b>HUMAN EXPOSURE</b> <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (If yes, please complete the following:)		
Name of Exposed	Address of Exposed	Phone # of Exposed
Exposure Type <input type="checkbox"/> Bite <input type="checkbox"/> Scratch <input type="checkbox"/> Contact Saliva <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	Location of Wound	Post-Exposure Prophylaxis Started? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>PET/DOMESTIC ANIMAL EXPOSURE</b> <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (If yes, please complete the following:)		
Type of Animal Exposed <input type="checkbox"/> Dog <input type="checkbox"/> Cat <input type="checkbox"/> Livestock <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	Vaccination Status of Exposed Animal <input type="checkbox"/> Current <input type="checkbox"/> Expired <input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	

COMMENTS:

<b>OLS USE ONLY</b> <input type="checkbox"/> UNSAT Reason ID: _____	ACC: DE: CKD:
---	---------------------

FAILURE TO COMPLETE THIS FORM IN ITS ENTIRETY MAY RESULT IN DELAYED TEST RESULTS

Rev. 04/2008

# Appendix E-1

## Specimen Submission Form Completed for Human Exposure



**OFFICE OF LABORATORY SERVICES**

Andrea M. Labik, Sc.D. / Director  
 167 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
 South Charleston, WV 25303  
 (304) 558-3630  
 fax (304) 558-2006 or 6210

HUMAN EXPOSURE

PLACE BARCODE HERE

PLS USE ONLY

### RABIES LABORATORY SPECIMEN SUBMISSION FORM

**SUBMITTER INFORMATION**

FACILITY NAME: Cow County Health Department COUNTY: Cow ATTENTION TO: Joe Schmoie FAX NO.: 555-555-5555	MAILING ADDRESS: 123 Rabies Blvd CITY: Racketty Coon    STATE: WV    ZIP: 55555 BUSINESS HOURS PHONE NO.: 555-555-5554 AFTER HOURS PHONE NO.: 555-555-5553
--	---

Species: Raccoon	If a domestic animal, what is current vaccination status? <input type="checkbox"/> Current <input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Expired <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	DATE COLLECTED: 5-5-05
Date of Animal Death: 5-5-05	How did animal die? beat with shovel	Was the animal buried before brain removal? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Animal Wild or Owned? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Owned/Wild/Stray <input type="checkbox"/> Owned (Name of Owner _____)	Phone # of Owner _____	
Address Where Found: 456 Rabies Blvd	City: Racketty Coon	State: WV    Zip: 55555
County Where Found: Cow	GIS Coordinates Latitude _____ Longitude _____	
Name of Person Sample Received From: Ima Sanitarian	Telephone: 555-555-5555	
Occupation (check ONE only): <input type="checkbox"/> Animal Control Officer <input type="checkbox"/> Veterinarian <input type="checkbox"/> Police <input type="checkbox"/> Wildlife Officer <input type="checkbox"/> Private Citizen <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County Health Official <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____		
Reason for Testing (Check ALL That Apply): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Human Exposure <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Pet/Domestic Animal Exposure (Specify: _____)    Surveillance: <input type="checkbox"/> Found Dead/Roadkill <input type="checkbox"/> Odd Behavior		

**COMPLETE FOR ORAL RABIES VACCINATION PROGRAM ONLY**

Animal Number \_\_\_\_\_ | Data Collected By (County) \_\_\_\_\_ | Brainstem Specimen Collected By (County) \_\_\_\_\_

<b>HUMAN EXPOSURE</b> <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes (If yes, please complete the following.)		
Name of Exposed: Ima Bit	Address of Exposed: 456 Rabies Blvd	Phone # of Exposed: 555-555-5552
Exposure Type: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bite <input type="checkbox"/> Scratch <input type="checkbox"/> Contact Saliva <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	Location of Wound: right hand	Post-Exposure Prophylaxis Started? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
<b>PET/DOMESTIC ANIMAL EXPOSURE</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (If yes, please complete the following.)		
Type of Animal Exposed: <input type="checkbox"/> Dog <input type="checkbox"/> Cat <input type="checkbox"/> Livestock <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	Vaccination Status of Exposed Animal: <input type="checkbox"/> Current <input type="checkbox"/> Expired <input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	

COMMENTS:

<b>PLS USE ONLY</b>	ACC:
<input type="checkbox"/> UNSAT	DE:
Reason#D:	CKD:

**FAILURE TO COMPLETE THIS FORM IN ITS ENTIRETY MAY RESULT IN DELAYED TEST RESULTS**

Rev. 04/2008

# Appendix E-2

## Specimen Submission Form Completed for Pet/Domestic Animal Exposure



**OFFICE OF LABORATORY SERVICES**  
 Andrea M. Labik, Sc.D. / Director  
 167 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
 South Charleston, WV 25303  
 (304) 558-3630  
 fax (304) 558-2006 or 6210

PET EXPOSURE

PLACE BARCODE HERE  
 OLS USE ONLY

### RABIES LABORATORY SPECIMEN SUBMISSION FORM

**SUBMITTER INFORMATION**

<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">FACILITY NAME</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Cow County Health Department</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">COUNTY</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Cow</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">ATTENTION TO:</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Joe Schmoie</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">FAX NO.:</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">555-555-5555</td> </tr> </table>	FACILITY NAME	Cow County Health Department	COUNTY	Cow	ATTENTION TO:	Joe Schmoie	FAX NO.:	555-555-5555	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td colspan="3" style="padding: 2px;">MAILING ADDRESS</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">123 Rabies Blvd</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">CITY</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">STATE</td> <td colspan="2" style="padding: 2px;">ZIP</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">Racketty Coon</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">WV</td> <td colspan="2" style="padding: 2px;">55555</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="padding: 2px;">BUSINESS HOURS PHONE NO.:</td> <td colspan="2" style="padding: 2px;">555-555-5554</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="padding: 2px;">AFTER HOURS PHONE NO.:</td> <td colspan="2" style="padding: 2px;">555-555-5553</td> </tr> </table>	MAILING ADDRESS			123 Rabies Blvd	CITY	STATE	ZIP		Racketty Coon	WV	55555		BUSINESS HOURS PHONE NO.:		555-555-5554		AFTER HOURS PHONE NO.:		555-555-5553	
FACILITY NAME	Cow County Health Department																												
COUNTY	Cow																												
ATTENTION TO:	Joe Schmoie																												
FAX NO.:	555-555-5555																												
MAILING ADDRESS			123 Rabies Blvd																										
CITY	STATE	ZIP																											
Racketty Coon	WV	55555																											
BUSINESS HOURS PHONE NO.:		555-555-5554																											
AFTER HOURS PHONE NO.:		555-555-5553																											

Species Raccoon	If a domestic animal, what is current vaccination status? <input type="checkbox"/> Current <input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Expired <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	DATE COLLECTED 5-5-05
Date of Animal Death: 5-5-05	How did animal die? beat with shovel	Was the animal buried before brain removal? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Animal Wild or Owned? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Owned/Wild/Stray <input type="checkbox"/> Owned (Name of Owner _____)		Phone # of Owner
Address Where Found 789 Diggity Dog Lane	City Racketty Coon	State WV
County Where Found Cow	Zip 55555	
Name of Person Sample Received From: Ima Sanitarian		Telephone 555-555-5555
Occupation (check ONE only): <input type="checkbox"/> Animal Control Officer <input type="checkbox"/> Veterinarian <input type="checkbox"/> Police <input type="checkbox"/> Wildlife Officer <input type="checkbox"/> Private Citizen <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County Health Official <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____		
Reason for Testing (Check ALL That Apply): <input type="checkbox"/> Human Exposure <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pet/Domestic Animal Exposure (Specify: _____)		
Surveillance: <input type="checkbox"/> Found Dead/Roadkill <input type="checkbox"/> Odd Behavior		

**COMPLETE FOR ORAL RABIES VACCINATION PROGRAM ONLY**

Animal Number \_\_\_\_\_ | Data Collected By (County) \_\_\_\_\_ | Brainstem Specimen Collected By (County) \_\_\_\_\_

<b>HUMAN EXPOSURE</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (If yes, please complete the following.)		
Name of Exposed	Address of Exposed	Phone # of Exposed
Exposure Type <input type="checkbox"/> Bite <input type="checkbox"/> Scratch <input type="checkbox"/> Contact Saliva <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	Location of Wound	Post-Exposure Prophylaxis Started? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

<b>PET/DOMESTIC ANIMAL EXPOSURE</b> <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes (If yes, please complete the following.)	
Type of Animal Exposed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dog <input type="checkbox"/> Cat <input type="checkbox"/> Livestock <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	Vaccination Status of Exposed Animal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Current <input type="checkbox"/> Expired <input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown

COMMENTS:

<b>OLS USE ONLY</b>	ACC:
<input type="checkbox"/> UNSAT	DE:
Reason#D:	CKD:

**FAILURE TO COMPLETE THIS FORM IN ITS ENTIRETY MAY RESULT IN DELAYED TEST RESULTS**

Rev. 04/2008



# Appendix E-3

## Specimen Submission Form Completed for Active Surveillance



**OFFICE OF LABORATORY SERVICES**

Andrea M. Labik, Sc.D. / Director  
 167 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
 South Charleston, WV 25303  
 (304) 558-3530  
 fax (304) 558-2006 or 6210

**SURVEILLANCE**

PLACE BARCODE HERE  
 OLS USE ONLY

### RABIES LABORATORY SPECIMEN SUBMISSION FORM

**SUBMITTER INFORMATION**

FACILITY NAME: Cow County Health Department COUNTY: Cow ATTENTION TO: Joe Schmoer FAX NO.: 555-555-5555	MAILING ADDRESS: 123 Rabies Blvd CITY: Racketty Coon    STATE: WV    ZIP: 55555 BUSINESS HOURS PHONE NO.: 555-555-5554 AFTER HOURS PHONE NO.: 555-555-5553
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Species: Raccoon	If a domestic animal, what is current vaccination status? <input type="checkbox"/> Current <input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Expired <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	DATE COLLECTED: 5-5-05
Date of Animal Death: 5-5-05	How did animal die? road kill	Was the animal buried before brain removal? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Animal Wild or Owned? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Owned/Wild/Stray <input type="checkbox"/> Owned (Name of Owner _____)	Phone # of Owner _____	
Address Where Found: Rt 6 Mile Marker 5	City: Racketty Coon	State: WV    Zip: 55555
County Where Found: Cow	GIS Coordinates Latitude: 23degrees 35'    Longitude: 48degrees 53'	
Name of Person Sample Received From: Ima Sanitarian	Telephone: 555-555-5555	
Occupation (check ONE only): <input type="checkbox"/> Animal Control Officer <input type="checkbox"/> Veterinarian <input type="checkbox"/> Police <input type="checkbox"/> Wildlife Officer <input type="checkbox"/> Private Citizen <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County Health Official <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____		
Reason for Testing (Check ALL That Apply): <input type="checkbox"/> Human Exposure <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____    Surveillance: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Found Dead/Roadkill <input type="checkbox"/> Odd Behavior <input type="checkbox"/> Pet/Domestic Animal Exposure (Specify: _____)		
<b>COMPLETE FOR ORAL RABIES VACCINATION PROGRAM ONLY</b>		
Animal Number: Rac#1      Data Collected By (County): Cow      Brainstem Specimen Collected By (County): Cow		
<b>HUMAN EXPOSURE</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (If yes, please complete the following.)		
Name of Exposed _____	Address of Exposed _____	Phone # of Exposed _____
Exposure Type: <input type="checkbox"/> Bite <input type="checkbox"/> Scratch <input type="checkbox"/> Contact Saliva <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	Location of Wound _____	Post-Exposure Prophylaxis Started? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>PET/DOMESTIC ANIMAL EXPOSURE</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (If yes, please complete the following.)		
Type of Animal Exposed: <input type="checkbox"/> Dog <input type="checkbox"/> Cat <input type="checkbox"/> Livestock <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	Vaccination Status of Exposed Animal: <input type="checkbox"/> Current <input type="checkbox"/> Expired <input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	

COMMENTS:

<b>OLS USE ONLY</b>	ACC:
<input type="checkbox"/> UNS AT	DE:
ReasonID: _____	CKD:

**FAILURE TO COMPLETE THIS FORM IN ITS ENTIRETY MAY RESULT IN DELAYED TEST RESULTS**

Rev. 04/2008

## **Appendix F**

### **Office of Laboratory Services Policy for Acceptance of Rabies Specimens**

#### **1.0 PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to set forth policy updates for the acceptance of specimens (animal) to the Rabies Unit of the Microbiology Section of the OLS.

#### **2.0 SCOPE**

This policy applies to all specimens (animal) received at OLS.

#### **3.0 APPLICABLE DOCUMENTS/MATERIAL**

3.1 Rabies Procedure Manual, OLS.

3.2 Protocol for Postmortem Diagnosis of Rabies in Animal, CDC.

#### **4.0 RESPONSIBILITY/REQUIREMENTS**

##### 4.1 Acceptable Specimens

4.1.1 Severed heads of animals, so long as the head fits within the specimen collection box provided by OLS.

4.1.2 Whole animals such as bats and small rodents.

4.1.3 Brain only of large animals such as cow, horse, etc.

##### 4.2 Unacceptable Specimens

4.2.1 Large, whole animals such as raccoon, skunks, etc.

4.2.2 Animals that have been buried.

4.2.3 Animals dead longer than 7 days.

4.2.4 Animals with extensive, severe head trauma.

##### 4.3 Animals That Have Been Shot in the Head

4.3.1 OLS will accept animals that have been shot in the head.

4.3.2 Animals which have significant head trauma and those which are bleeding from the ears should not be submitted for testing.

4.3.3 It is at the sole discretion of the Rabies Unit technologists to determine whether or not the animal head is acceptable for testing.

- 4.4 Acceptance Timeline
  - 4.4.1 Animals which have been dead for less than 5 days are suitable for testing submission.
  - 4.4.2 Animals which have been dead for 5 to 7 days are questionable for testing submission. It is at the sole discretion of the Rabies Unit technologist to determine whether or not the animal head is acceptable for testing.
- 4.5 Maintaining Policies
  - 4.5.1 OLS/Microbiology Section is responsible for posting and maintaining this policy.
  - 4.5.2 Approved policies remain in effect and are only replaced at the issuance of a new or modified policy.
  - 4.5.3 Any modified or temporary policy that materially effects the usage rights or responsibilities of employees will be communicated to employees by e-mail.
  - 4.5.4 Employees must also sign an acknowledgement for which can be found at the end of this policy.
- 4.6 Access and Distribution
  - 4.6.1 This policy is available in the Policy Manual located in the Microbiology Office and in the Rabies Procedure Manual.
  - 4.6.2 This policy will be distributed to Rabies Unit employees via e-mail distribution.

## 5.0 DEFINITIONS

- 5.1 Employee: Individuals employed on a temporary or permanent basis by DHHR, BPH, OLS, as well as contractor's employees, volunteers, and individuals who are determined by the Bureau or Office to be subject to this policy. For the purposes of this policy, this refers to anyone working in the Rabies Unit of the Microbiology Section of the OLS.

# Appendix G Animal Encounter Form

SG-58  
3-02

HEALTH DEPARTMENT  
STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA



## ANIMAL ENCOUNTER REPORT

**COMPLETE AS MUCH INFORMATION AS POSSIBLE. A PHONE NUMBER FOR THE VICTIM IS NECESSARY. REPORT THE BITE, SCRATCH, OR OTHER CONTACT TO THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT IMMEDIATELY.**

### VICTIM INFORMATION

Date of Exposure: \_\_\_\_\_ Time of Exposure: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Report: \_\_\_\_\_  
Reported By: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Victim: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent, if <18: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Birth / Age of Victim: \_\_\_\_\_ Weight of Victim: \_\_\_\_\_ Pounds Sex: ( ) M ( ) F  
Type of Exposure: ( ) Bite ( ) Scratch ( ) Contact with Saliva ( ) Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
Site of Exposure: ( ) Head-Neck ( ) Arm-Hand ( ) Leg-Foot ( ) Torso Severity: \_\_\_\_\_  
Circumstances of Exposure: \_\_\_\_\_  
Physician / Hospital: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Treatment: \_\_\_\_\_

### ANIMAL INFORMATION

Owner of the Animal: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Type of Animal: \_\_\_\_\_ Description: \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) Pet ( ) Stray ( ) Wild  
Signature of Person(s) Completing Report: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### FOR HEALTH DEPARTMENT USE

Owner Notified: ( ) Yes ( ) No Date Notified: \_\_\_\_\_ By: ( ) Phone ( ) Letter ( ) Visit  
Status of Animal: ( ) Confined ( ) Killed ( ) Died ( ) Lost ( ) Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
If Confined, at: ( ) Home ( ) Veterinarian ( ) Animal Shelter Location: \_\_\_\_\_  
Animal Has Current Rabies Vaccination (confirmed by certificate, not tag): ( ) Yes ( ) No Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Other Animals Have Been Exposed: ( ) Yes ( ) No If Yes, Explain: \_\_\_\_\_  
Animal Head Submitted for Examination: ( ) Yes ( ) No Date Submitted: \_\_\_\_\_  
Recommend Rx of Person Exposed: ( ) None ( ) RIG ( ) Rabies Vaccine ( ) Tetanus  
Date Rx Started: \_\_\_\_\_

### LABORATORY REPORT

( ) Positive Evidence of Rabies Virus ( ) Negative - No Evidence of Rabies virus  
( ) Unsatisfactory - No Test Performed ( ) Other Results - Specify Below  
Date Results Received: \_\_\_\_\_

### FOLLOW-UP

Animal Health After 10 Days: ( ) Good Health ( ) Clinical Symptoms ( ) Escaped ( ) Died  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Completed and Checked: \_\_\_\_\_ Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Sanitarian Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# Appendix H Notice of Animal Quarantine

SG-59  
3-02

HEALTH DEPARTMENT  
STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA



## NOTICE OF ANIMAL QUARANTINE

<b>Issued To:</b>	<b>Animal To Be Quarantined:</b>
Name: _____	Species: _____
Address: _____	Breed: _____
City: _____	Sex: _____
State, Zip Code: _____	Color: _____
Telephone: _____	Descriptive features: _____

**You are hereby ordered to quarantine the animal identified above for ten (10) days for rabies observation. Quarantine is necessary to determine whether or not the person(s) bitten by the animal requires treatment. This order is issued in accordance with West Virginia Division of Health legislative rules on "Reportable Diseases," 64CSR7.**

### INSTRUCTIONS

1. Quarantine the animal for ten (10) days beginning: Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_  
The ten (10) day quarantine ends at: Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Isolate the animal away from other animals and human contact in a manner that will prevent its escape and permit daily observation. Tying the animal in an open yard is not adequate confinement.
3. Do not kill, sell, release, or give the animal away during the quarantine period.
4. Give the animal proper care and make sure it is well fed and watered. Every effort should be made to keep the animal alive.
5. At the end of the quarantine period, contact the health department at the phone number listed below to report the animal's condition.
6. If the **animal dies** or shows any **signs of sickness** during the quarantine period **contact the health department immediately**. Avoid exposure to the animal's saliva and do not contact, damage, or destroy the animal's head or brain tissue. Laboratory examination of the animal's brain tissue may be necessary to determine if the animal has rabies.

Sanitarian: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Health Department

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Received by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Appendix I-1** **Reportable Disease Rule** **(WVDHHR)**

§64-7-5. Other Reportable Events: Potentially Rabid Animal Bites, Rabid Animals, Rabies Pre-Exposure Vaccinations and Post-Exposure Prophylaxis.

5.1. If a person is bitten, scratched, or otherwise exposed (gets saliva, neural tissue, or other potentially infectious fluid into an open cut, wound, or mucous membrane) to an animal which has or is suspected of having rabies, then the incident, including the person's full name, date of birth, and address, shall be reported to the local health officer within twenty-four hours, by phone, or preferably by WVEDSS, by the following individuals:

5.1.a. The physician or other health care provider caring for or observing the person;

5.1.b. The veterinarian or animal health care provider;

5.1.c. The person bitten, scratched, or otherwise exposed, if no physician or other health care provider is in attendance and the person bitten, scratched or otherwise exposed is an adult;

5.1.d. Whoever is caring for the person, if no physician or other health care provider is in attendance and the person bitten, scratched, or otherwise exposed is incapacitated; or

5.1.e. The parent or guardian, if no physician or other health care provider is in attendance and the person bitten, scratched or otherwise exposed is a child.

5.2. The local health officer shall report within twenty-four hours to the commissioner the name, date of birth, address, circumstances of the exposure, and action taken for every person bitten, scratched, or otherwise exposed to an animal which has or is suspected of having rabies.

5.3. If the animal is a domestic dog, cat or ferret, the local health officer shall make a reasonable attempt to determine the animal's owner, and, if successful, shall direct the owner to confine the animal for a period of ten days. The owner of the dog cat or ferret, county humane officer, dog warden or sheriff shall notify the local health officer immediately if the animal shows symptoms compatible with rabies or dies, and the local health officer, county humane officer, dog warden or sheriff shall arrange for appropriate examination of the animal's brain at the office of laboratory services.

5.4. If the local health officer cannot determine the owner of the domestic dog cat or ferret, he or she shall direct the county humane officer, dog warden or sheriff to pick up the suspect dog cat or ferret, that has bitten a person and confine it in isolation for a period of ten days. If the animal shows symptoms compatible with rabies, including if the animal bit someone without provocation, or if the animal demonstrates aggressive behavior toward human beings such that the animal may pose a continuing risk to other people, the local health officer shall direct the county humane officer, dog warden, sheriff, or other designee to humanely destroy the animal and arrange for appropriate examination of the animal's brain. If the animal dies, the local health officer shall arrange for appropriate examination of the animal's brain at the office of laboratory services.

5.5. If a person is reported bitten by any animal having or suspected of having rabies other than a domestic dog cat or ferret, especially a wild mammal or hybrid, the local health officer may direct the county humane officer, dog warden, sheriff, or other designee to have the animal humanely destroyed immediately and to arrange for appropriate examination of the animal's brain at the office of laboratory services.

5.6. Any person who becomes aware of the existence of an animal apparently afflicted with rabies shall report the existence of the animal, the place where it was last seen, the owner's name, if known, and the symptoms suggesting rabies to the local health officer immediately.

5.7. Health care providers, health care facilities, local health officers and other facilities administering rabies pre-exposure vaccination or post-exposure prophylaxis shall report vaccinations and treatment administered to WVEDSS.

**Appendix I-2**  
**Chapter 19, Article 9 Excerpts**  
**Diseases Among Domestic Animals**  
**West Virginia Department of Agriculture**

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§19-9-2. Duties and powers of commissioner.

It shall be the duty of the commissioner, and he shall have authority:

- (a) To prevent, suppress, control and eradicate any communicable diseases of animals or poultry;
- (b) To make and enforce such rules and regulations as may be necessary to effectuate the provisions of this article;

....

(d) To make or cause to be made any investigations he may deem advisable regarding the causes and methods of preventing, controlling and eradicating diseases of animals or poultry, and exercise such other powers and perform such other duties as may be proper or necessary to prevent the spread of, eradicate or control any communicable disease among animals or poultry, including the power to promulgate, issue, and enforce regulations prohibiting the feeding of garbage to swine unless said garbage has been thoroughly heated to a temperature of at least 212 degrees F for at least thirty minutes or treated in some other manner equally effective for the prevention of swine diseases and the protection of public health, such regulations not to apply to any individual who feeds only his own household garbage to swine which are raised for such individuals' own use;

(e) To prohibit the importation into this state of animals and poultry, when necessary to prevent the spread of disease;

(f) To cause general or special quarantine of premises and of animals and poultry to be established and maintained;

(g) To cause the disinfection of any premises;

(h) To cause the destruction of diseased animals, when such animals are deemed diseased as a result of physical examination or an approved test, and of infected personal property, and to regulate and prohibit the moving or transportation of such animals or property from one place to another in this state;

(i) To have charge of the enforcement of the provisions of this article and the laws of the state relating to diseases of animals and poultry, and the manufacture, preparation, storage, sale and offering for sale of the food and food products derived from diseased animals and poultry.

§19-9-3. Consulting veterinarians to assist commissioner.

The commissioner shall have authority to appoint, subject to dismissal by him at any time, such



consulting veterinarians as may be necessary from time to time to assist him in discharging the duties imposed upon him by this article. Each consulting veterinarian shall be registered as required by article ten, chapter thirty of this code, and shall receive a per diem, and actual expenses, to be determined by the commissioner, for the time actually engaged in carrying out the directions of the commissioner, which per diem and expenses shall be paid out of the current appropriation made for the enforcement of this article.

Whenever any incorporated city of this state shall have in its employ any veterinary sanitary officer engaged in the inspection of meat, milk or animals, and such officer is a registered veterinarian as aforesaid, the commissioner may appoint such city veterinary sanitary officer a consulting veterinarian, but such officer shall not be entitled to compensation or expenses from both the state and city for the same service.

#### §19-9-4. Inspectors of animals.

The commissioner may appoint, at different points in the state, inspectors to examine and inspect any of the animals enumerated in this article which are to be moved to states where the sanitary laws require such examination and inspection, with authority to issue certificates of inspection in the name of the state department of agriculture in such form as the commissioner may prescribe. Such inspectors shall be registered veterinarians, and the appointment of any such inspector may, at any time, be revoked by the commissioner.

The commissioner shall regulate and fix the fees to be charged by the inspector, which fees shall be paid by the owner requesting such examination and inspection, and the inspector shall receive no compensation from the state for any such service he may render.

Upon the request of any owner for an examination and inspection of such animals and tender of the fees authorized to be charged therefor, it shall be the duty of the inspector to examine and inspect such animals and to issue and deliver to such owner a certificate of inspection showing the results of such examination and inspection.

#### §19-9-5. Persons authorized to enter premises; powers thereof; refusal to enforce orders of commissioner.

The commissioner, the consulting veterinarians, and their duly appointed and authorized assistants or employees, in the performance of their duties under this article and the rules and regulations adopted by the commissioner, shall have the power to enter any premises, public or private, where they have reason to believe that diseased animals or poultry may be or may have been confined or kept in or on such premises, or for the purpose of making such examination or applying such tests as may be necessary to determine whether any contagious or infectious disease exists there. They shall have the same powers and protection as other peace officers of this state, and shall have power and authority to require all sheriffs and their deputies, constables, mayors of cities and towns, and state and municipal police officers, to assist them in carrying out the provisions of this article and the rules and regulations adopted thereunder. Any officer who fails or refuses to enforce the lawful orders and quarantine of the commissioner or any one acting under him, in the proper execution of the powers conferred by this article, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction thereof, shall be fined not less than twenty-five nor more than two hundred dollars.

§19-9-6. Report of communicable diseases by veterinarians and owners; failure to report. Every veterinarian engaged in the practice of his profession in this state, immediately upon receiving information thereof, shall report to the commissioner each case of any communicable disease, or of any animal reacting to a tuberculosis or mallein test; and every person who has upon his premises or in his possession any domestic animal which is, or which he has good reason to suspect to be, infected with any communicable disease, shall immediately report the same to the commissioner. The reports shall be in writing and shall include a description of each animal affected, with the name and address of the owner or person in charge of the animal, the locality, and the number of susceptible domestic animals that have been exposed to the disease.

Any veterinarian or other person who shall knowingly fail to report such a case or who shall attempt to conceal the existence of such disease shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction thereof, shall be fined not more than one hundred dollars.

....

#### QUARANTINE

§19-9-13. Quarantine of premises or animals; general and special quarantine defined.

Whenever any communicable disease shall exist anywhere in the state a quarantine of any locality or premises, or of any infected or exposed animals, may be established.

Quarantine shall be of two kinds:

(a) "Special quarantine," which shall mean a quarantine of a single animal; or a quarantine of a single building, structure, pen, coop, car, vessel, vehicle, field or inclosure; or a quarantine of any number of animals when confined or contained in the same building, structure, pen, coop, car, vessel, vehicle, field or inclosure;

(b) "General quarantine," which shall include all quarantines not included under the term "special quarantine" as herein defined.

§19-9-14. Establishment of special quarantine.

The commissioner or his authorized agent shall have the power to establish and maintain a special quarantine, whenever any domestic animal shall be affected with or exposed to any communicable disease, or whenever he deems it necessary to have any animal examined or tested. When a special quarantine is established, the commissioner, or his agent, shall post on the building, structure, pen, coop, car, vessel, vehicle, field, or enclosure wherein the animal or animals quarantined are confined or contained, a notice declaring the quarantine and containing a description of the animal or animals and of the premises where quarantined. Such quarantine may continue for such time as the commissioner, or his agent, may deem advisable.

§19-9-15. Establishment of general quarantine.

A general quarantine may be established and maintained whenever any communicable disease of domestic animals shall exist in any locality in the state larger in extent than that which may be included in a special quarantine. A general quarantine shall be established and maintained by order

of the commissioner only; but in establishing and maintaining such quarantine the commissioner may act through and by an officer or agent employed by him, to whom such power is delegated, and the establishment and maintenance of such quarantine by any officer, agent or employee of the commissioner shall be prima facie the establishment and maintenance of quarantine by the commissioner. Such quarantine shall include such premises, locality or territorial district, and such animals, and shall continue for such time, as may be deemed necessary by the commissioner. Whenever any premises or any locality or territorial district shall be placed under a general quarantine, it shall be the duty of the officer, agent or employee by whom the order of quarantine is executed, to post at least ten notices in the most public places within the premises, locality or territorial district quarantined, declaring the quarantine and the duration thereof, the extent and limits of the premises, locality, or territorial district so quarantined, and the animals subject thereto. A copy of such notice shall be published as a Class I legal advertisement in compliance with the provisions of article three, chapter fifty-nine of this code, and the publication area for such publication shall be the quarantined area. If the quarantine shall be for the purpose of preventing the spread of rabies or hydrophobia, and in the case of other communicable diseases, if the commissioner deems such action necessary, the notice shall require all dogs within the quarantined area to be confined by their owners.

§19-9-16. Unlawful to remove, deface or destroy quarantine notice.

It shall be unlawful for any person, during the continuance of any quarantine, to tear down, deface or destroy any notice of quarantine posted by any officer, agent, or employee of the commissioner, or to remove or destroy any portion of a building or tree or fence whereon the same shall have been posted.

§19-9-17. Care of quarantined animals; expense.

The owner of animals placed in quarantine by the commissioner or his agents shall provide suitable quarters for them and feed and water them. If he fails or refuses to do so, the commissioner or his agents shall provide such quarters and feed and water such animals at the expense of the owner. If such expense shall not be paid within ten days after the lifting of the quarantine, the commissioner may sell or cause to be sold any such animal, at public sale, after ten days' notice thereof, and shall apply the proceeds of such sale, first to the payment of the costs and expenses aforesaid, and the residue to the owner. No animal shall be removed from a quarantined area prior to such sale, except upon payment of such expense.

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IMPORTATION OF ANIMALS INTO STATE

§19-9-20. Bringing animals into state; health certificate.

It shall be unlawful for any person or his agents or employees knowingly to drive, cause to be driven, bring or cause to be brought into this state any domestic animal infected with any communicable disease. Every domestic animal being brought into the state for any purpose, by any means of transportation, shall be subject to the restrictions imposed by section twenty-one of this article, unless such animal is accompanied by a certificate of good health issued by the state veterinarian or other accredited authority of the state from which such animal originates, or the certificate of a veterinary

inspector of the bureau of animal industry of the United States department of agriculture, setting forth that such animal is free from all communicable diseases and does not originate from a district of quarantine or infection, and showing inspection to have been made within a period of thirty days prior to the arrival of such animal: Provided, however, That in the case of bovine animals the duration of such period of test shall be sixty days or such other period as shall conform to the regulations of the United States department of agriculture. Such certificate shall be made in triplicate, the original to be retained by the owner or person in charge of such animal, and by him attached to the bill of lading accompanying shipment of the animal, the duplicate to be forwarded to the commissioner, and the triplicate to be retained by the veterinarian making the inspection.

§19-9-21. Animals entering state without health certificate.

It shall be the duty of the owner or owners of any domestic animal, which is to enter this state without a certificate of health, to notify the commissioner in writing stating when, where and how the animal is to be brought into this state. Such notice must reach the commissioner before the animal arrives at the point of destination. Any animal entering the state without a certificate of health may be placed in quarantine by the commissioner under such rules and regulations as he may approve, and held therein at the expense of the owner, and if such animal is found infected with any communicable disease, it shall, at the option of the owner, be killed, without compensation to the owner, or continued in quarantine at the expense of the owner. The expenses incurred in providing such animal or animals with proper quarters, food and water may be recovered by the commissioner from the owner in a suit in the name of the state, as other debts are by law collectible. It shall be unlawful to remove any such domestic animal from quarantine unless it shall have passed a satisfactory examination, and the tuberculin test in the case of bovine animals for dairy or breeding purposes, and unless the charge for the quarters, feed, water and attendance have been paid to the person entitled thereto.

§19-9-22. Unlawful possession of animal brought into state.

When notified by the commissioner, or any of his agents or employees, not to do so, it shall be unlawful for any person to receive, keep or have in his possession any domestic animal imported or brought into this state in violation of any of the provisions of this article, or to allow any such domestic animal to come in contact with any other domestic animal.

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## SLAUGHTERING OF DISEASED ANIMALS

§19-9-28. Indemnity for slaughter of infected or exposed animals; agreement.

Whenever, to prevent the spread of any communicable disease, which cannot be cured or controlled by isolation and adequate or proper veterinary treatment, it shall be deemed necessary by the commissioner or any of his agents to cause any animal found to be infected with or directly exposed to any infectious, contagious, or communicable disease, which cannot be cured or controlled by isolation and adequate or proper veterinary treatment, to be killed, and the owner of such animal shall desire to receive indemnity therefor, he shall be required by the commissioner before the appraisal and slaughter of the animal to execute an agreement that he will thoroughly clean and disinfect all premises that may have been infected by such animal in such manner as the commissioner may prescribe, and, in case such animal is tuberculous, that he will have his entire herd of bovine animals

tested with tuberculin by the commissioner or his agent at such times as the commissioner may designate, and will not admit to his herd any bovine animal that has not given a negative reaction to the test. Such agreement shall be in duplicate, one copy to be retained by the signer, and in such form as the commissioner shall prescribe, and shall be signed by the owner or his agent, and shall be effective for a period of two years from the date thereof. All such animals, for which indemnity is claimed by the owner, shall be appraised before being slaughtered, and the owners indemnified as hereinafter provided: Provided, however, That any animal infected with rabies may be slaughtered by the owner or any person authorized to do so without such agreement and appraisal first being had, and if the disease is caused by the bite of a dog, the animal shall be appraised and compensation therefor obtained as provided in article twenty of this chapter.

....

§19-9-30. Appraisal of infected or exposed animals; amount; arbitration; fees of arbitrators.

The commissioner or his agent shall act as appraiser and appraise each infected or directly exposed animal within five days prior to the date of slaughter, basing the amount upon the class and market value of the animal at the time of the appraisal, whether for breeding purposes or for milk or meat production. Animals reacting to any approved test, but not exhibiting any physical evidence of disease, shall be appraised without considering the presence of a diseased condition, but animals exhibiting any physical evidence of disease shall be appraised as infected animals: Provided, however, That where indemnities are claimed for directly exposed animals slaughtered on account of being infected with rabies, appraisement shall be based on the value of the animal before it became infected. The amount of appraisal for a nonregistered equine animal shall not exceed seventy-five dollars, for a registered equine animal one hundred dollars, for a nonregistered bovine animal one hundred and fifty dollars, for a registered bovine animal two hundred and fifty dollars, for a nonregistered swine twenty-five dollars, for a registered swine forty dollars, for a nonregistered sheep ten dollars, and for a registered sheep twenty-five dollars. If the amount of appraisal of any animal, as determined by the appraiser is not satisfactory to the owner of the animal, a written notice of such fact setting forth the reason for complaint shall be made at once to the appraiser. The amount of the appraisal shall then be determined by arbitrators, one to be appointed by the appraiser and one by the owner of the animal. If these arbitrators are not able to agree as to the amount of appraisal, a third arbitrator shall be appointed by them, whose decision shall be final. Each arbitrator shall be paid one dollar for each appraisement of five or less than five animals, and two dollars if more than five animals are appraised. Compensation for the arbitrators appointed by the owner and the appraiser shall be paid by the party appointing such arbitrator, and in case a third arbitrator is chosen, such arbitrator shall be paid by the party against whom the decision is made.

§19-9-31. Certificate of appraisal.

When the animal is to be slaughtered, the commissioner or his agent shall make and deliver to the owner a certificate of appraisal which may cover any number of animals belonging to the same owner, showing the age and description of each animal found to be infected or directly exposed, the name and place of test, if any, the mark or brand as tuberculous, and any other mark or brand which the animal may bear, the date when and the place to which the animal was sent for slaughter by the veterinarian, the designation of the officer who is to supervise the slaughter, the appraised value of each animal, the name and address of the owner of the animal, and the fact that he has executed the agreement as provided in section twenty-eight of this article.

§19-9-32. Slaughter of diseased animals; supervision; certificate of slaughter.

After the agreement has been executed, appraisal made and certificate thereof issued, the commissioner or his agent shall cause the animal to be slaughtered and the carcass disposed of in accordance with the meat inspection regulations of the United States bureau of animal industry, or in such manner as the commissioner shall prescribe. The officer supervising the slaughter shall, immediately thereafter, indorse upon or add to the certificate of appraisement provided for in section thirty- one of this article a certificate of slaughter stating that he has witnessed the slaughter of each of the animals, the place and date thereof, that the number, age, description and brand or mark correspond to those given in the certificate of appraisal, the result of his post-mortem examination, the disposition made of the carcass, and the price received for the same by the veterinarian, which price shall be paid to the owner and credited on the amount of appraisal: Provided, That in case animals are slaughtered as tuberculous the appraisal certificate shall be credited in the manner provided in section thirty-six of this article.

The slaughter may be supervised and certificate thereof may be made by the commissioner or any of his agents or any person possessing the authority of an agent, or an officer of the United States bureau of animal industry. The commissioner may require such other particulars to be added to either of said certificates or the affidavits hereinafter required, and may make and enforce such rules and regulations governing the handling, shipping and slaughter of such animals, as may be deemed necessary.

§19-9-33. Payment of indemnity.

All claims for indemnity for animals slaughtered as tuberculous shall be paid in the manner prescribed in section thirty-seven of this article. In all other cases when animals are slaughtered as provided by the article the veterinarian shall forthwith forward the certificates of appraisal and slaughter, together with the owner's claim for indemnity, and his affidavit that he has, in all respects, complied with the agreement provided for in section twenty-eight of this article and with the requirements of the commissioner in respect thereto, to the commissioner, who shall, if the same is found to be correct and the claim not barred by the provisions of section twenty-nine of this article, approve and file the same. The commissioner shall, at the end of each fiscal year, issue his requisition to the state auditor for two thirds of the value of the certificates of appraisal so approved: Provided, That in case of an outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease, or any other dangerously contagious or infectious disease among bovine animals, ovine animals, or swine, on account of which bovine animals, ovine animals, or swine are being destroyed by cooperative order of federal and state authority, and for which animals so destroyed the federal government pays one half of the indemnity herein provided for, this state shall pay one half, and only one half, of such indemnity. The state auditor shall issue his warrant on the state treasurer, in favor of the claimant, for the amount ordered by the commissioner, which amount shall be paid out of the current appropriation made for carrying out the provisions of this article: Provided further, That in case the amount of such certificates of appraisal, and those similarly provided for in section thirty- seven of this article, in any one year, shall exceed the current appropriation therefor, such certificates shall be paid pro rata at the end of each fiscal year.

....

## TRANSPORTATION OR SALE OF DISEASED ANIMALS

### §19-9-38. Transportation of diseased animals.

It shall be unlawful for any person knowingly to drive, move or transport on, across or along any public highway, or in wagons or railroad cars or other vehicles, any animal infected with any communicable disease, except upon express permission in writing from the commissioner or his agents.

### §19-9-39. Selling or giving away diseased animal; permitting it to stray.

Without express permission in writing from the commissioner, or his agent, it shall be unlawful for any person to sell or offer for sale, or give away, or allow to stray, any animal infected with any communicable disease or any animal that has reacted to any tuberculin or mallein test, or with such permission to sell, offer for sale, or give away, any such animal, without notifying the purchaser, or any prospective purchaser, or the person to whom the animal shall be sold or given, that the animal is infected or has reacted as aforesaid, or that it has been in a herd infected with a disease within one year, except when for immediate slaughter in accordance with the meat inspection regulations of the United States department of agriculture; or to dispose of to another in any manner any animal that may be quarantined until such time as the quarantine shall have been raised by the proper officer, or to dispose of the meat or milk of any animal that may be infected with such communicable disease for use as food or for other purposes except in such manner as shall be provided by the commissioner: Provided, however, That nothing in this section shall be construed as in conflict with or superseding any of the provisions of the state or national pure food or meat inspection laws.

## PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS

### §19-9-40. Penalties.

Any person who shall violate any of the provisions of this article, or who shall obstruct or hinder the commissioner, or any officer or employee, in the performance of his duties under this article, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction thereof, shall, for the first offense, be fined not more than one hundred dollars, and upon conviction for each subsequent offense fined not more than five hundred dollars, and in addition to such fine may be confined in the county jail for not more than ninety days.

Note: Code updated with legislation passed through the 2008 2nd Extraordinary Session

**Appendix I-3**  
**Chapter 19, Article 20 Excerpts**  
**Dogs and Cats**  
**West Virginia Department of Agriculture**

[note: revisions of Article 20A are effective June 2010]

ARTICLE 20A. VACCINATION OF DOGS AND CATS FOR RABIES.

Whoever owns, keeps or harbors a dog or cat within the boundaries of any county in the state of West Virginia shall ~~on or before June 1, 1987~~ have such dog or cat properly vaccinated or immunized against rabies with a vaccine capable of producing immunity for ~~two~~ three years and shall every ~~second~~ third year thereafter have such the dog or cat revaccinated with a vaccine capable of producing immunity for ~~two~~ three years. After June 1, 1987, Whoever obtains an unvaccinated dog or cat shall at once have such the dog or cat properly vaccinated against rabies with a vaccine capable of producing immunity for ~~two~~ three years and shall have such vaccination repeated every ~~second~~ third year with a vaccine capable of producing immunity for ~~two~~ three years: *Provided*, That dogs and cats need not be vaccinated before the age of three months, but must be vaccinated by the age of six months: *Provided, however*, That dogs and cats entering the State of West Virginia temporarily cannot be kept and maintained within the State of West Virginia for a period of more than thirty days unless properly vaccinated. Anyone owning a dog or cat can have them vaccinated by any veterinarian or person working with or under ~~such a~~ veterinarian, or if there be no resident veterinarian in the county, by ~~such any other qualified person as may be~~ appointed by the county commission who ~~shall work~~ works under the supervision of the county health department.

§19-20A-5. Type of vaccine to be furnished; fee.

It ~~shall be~~ is the duty of the veterinarian, or person vaccinating each animal to furnish vaccine of a type capable of establishing and maintaining immunity for a period of not less than ~~twenty-four~~ thirty-six months and he or she shall charge and collect a fee of not more than \$8 for each animal vaccinated, if done at a clinic established by a county commission or, if vaccinated at any other place, he or she shall charge and collect a reasonable fee for his or her services.

§19-20A-4a. Exemption of dogs for medical reasons.

(a) A letter of exemption from rabies vaccination may be obtained if a medical reason exists that precludes the vaccination of the dog or cat. Qualifying letters must be in the form of a written statement, signed by a licensed veterinarian, that includes a description of the dog or cat and the medical reason that precludes vaccination. If the medical reason is temporary, the letter shall indicate a time of expiration of the exemption.

(b) The owner of the animal shall retain the original letter of exemption in his or her records. Copies of the letter or a computer printout that contains the information required in subsection (a) shall be filed with the veterinarian who signed the letter of exemption and the clerk of the county commission in the county where the owner of the animal resides.

(c) A dog exempted under subsection (a) of this subsection is considered unvaccinated in the case of that dog or cat's exposure to a confirmed or suspect rabid animal.



*NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to update the law regarding the rabies vaccinations of dogs and cats.*

*Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from the present law, and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.*

....

§19-20-5. Wearing of registration tag by dog.

Every registered dog shall at all times wear a valid registration tag issued as provided in this article. The failure to have displayed or worn on any dog, at any time, of such valid tag shall be prima facie evidence that such dog is not registered and such dog shall be subject to be, and shall be, impounded, sold, or destroyed as hereinbefore or hereinafter provided.

§19-20-6. County dog warden; rules and regulations for dog control; prosecution and penalties for violation of ordinances.

(a) The county commission of each county may appoint and employ a county dog warden, and such number of deputies, for such time, and at such compensation, as such county commission shall deem reasonable and necessary to enforce the provisions of this code with respect to the control and registration of dogs, the impounding, care and destruction of unlicensed dogs. Such county dog warden may be appointed a deputy assessor for the purpose of collecting the dog tax and registration fees, taking the dog registration and providing the tags authorized by this article. The county dog warden or any deputies may, in the discretion of the county commission, be regularly employed officers or agents of any humane society or society for the prevention of cruelty to animals, organized and operating under the laws of this state and owning, controlling and operating a suitable place within the county for impounding and destroying dogs. In addition to the compensation provided for above, a bounty of fifty cents per dog shall be paid to the county dog warden or deputy who captures an unregistered dog. Such county dog warden and deputy wardens shall each give bond in a sum of not less than one thousand dollars and not more than two thousand dollars conditioned on the faithful performance of their duties. Such bonds shall be filed with the county commission by which such persons are appointed.

The county dog warden and his deputies shall patrol the county in which they are appointed and shall seize on sight and impound any dog more than six months of age found not wearing a valid registration tag, except dogs kept constantly confined in a registered dog kennel. They shall be responsible for the proper care and final disposition of all impounded dogs. The county dog warden shall make a monthly report, in writing, to the county commission of his county. When any dog shall have been seized and impounded, the county dog warden shall forthwith give notice to the owner of such dog, if such owner be known to the warden, that such dog has been impounded and that it will be sold or destroyed if not redeemed within five days. If the owner of such dog be not known to the dog warden, he shall post a notice in the county courthouse. The notice shall describe the dog and the place where seized and shall advise the unknown owner that such dog will be sold or destroyed if not redeemed within five days.

(b) Any county commission may promulgate and enforce such ordinances, rules and regulations, not inconsistent with the provisions of this article, as it considers necessary or convenient for the control and management of all dogs in the county, or any portion thereof, regardless of the age of any such

dog: Provided, That the county commissions may promulgate and enforce such ordinances, rules and regulations to the extent necessary for the implementation of the provisions contained in this article.

(c) The county commission of each county may provide in such ordinance for the arrest, conviction and punishment of any person who violates the provisions thereof. The county commission of each county may provide in any such ordinance that any person who violates the provisions of the ordinance is guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction thereof, that such person is subject to a fine or fines. The amount of such fine for a single violation of any such ordinance may not exceed one hundred dollars. Magistrate courts and circuit courts shall have concurrent jurisdiction with respect to such misdemeanors.

....

§19-20-8. Impounding and disposition of dogs; costs and fees.

(a) All dogs seized and impounded as provided in this article, except dogs taken into custody under section two of this article, shall be kept housed and fed in the county dog pound for five days after notice of seizure and impounding has been given or posted as required by this article, at the expiration of which time all dogs which have not previously been redeemed by their owners as provided in this article, shall be sold or humanely destroyed. No dog sold as provided in this section may be discharged from the pound until the dog has been registered and provided with a valid registration tag.

(b) The term "humanely destroyed" as used in this section means:

(1) Humane euthanasia of an animal by hypodermic injection by a licensed veterinarian or by an animal euthanasia technician certified in accordance with the provisions of article ten-a, chapter thirty of this code; or

(2) Any other humane euthanasia procedure approved by the American veterinary medical association, the humane society of the United States, or the American humane association.

(c) In an emergency or in a situation in which a dog cannot be humanely destroyed in an expeditious manner, a dog may be destroyed by shooting if:

(1) The shooting is performed by someone trained in the use of firearms with a weapon and ammunition of suitable caliber and other characteristics designed to produce instantaneous death by a single shot; and

(2) Maximum precaution is taken to minimize the dog's suffering and to protect other persons and animals.

(d) The owner, keeper or harbinger of any dog seized and impounded under the provisions of this article may, at any time prior to the expiration of five days from the time that notice of the seizure and impounding of the dog has been given or posted as required by this article, redeem the dog by paying to the dog warden or his or her authorized agent or deputy all of the costs assessed against the dog, and by providing a valid certificate of registration and registration tag for the dog.

(e) Reasonable costs and fees, in an amount to be determined from time to time by the county commission, shall be assessed against every dog seized and impounded under the provisions of this article, except dogs taken into custody under section two of this article. The cost shall be a valid claim in favor of the county against the owner, keeper or harbinger of any dog seized and impounded under the provisions of this article and not redeemed or sold as provided in this section, and the costs shall be recovered by the sheriff in a civil action against the owner, keeper or harbinger.

(f) A record of all dogs impounded, the disposition of the dogs and a statement of costs assessed against each dog shall be kept by the dog warden and a transcript thereof shall be furnished to the sheriff quarterly.

....

§19-20-9a. Dogs, cats, etc.; rabies observation.

(a) Any person who owns or harbors any dog, cat or other domesticated animal, whether licensed or unlicensed, which bites any person, shall forthwith confine and quarantine the animal for a period of ten days for rabies observation.

(b) If any unvaccinated domesticated animal is bitten by a rabid animal, the owner shall confine the bitten animal for a period of six months. The animal shall be vaccinated or revaccinated after five months.

(c) If the animal is not confined and quarantined as directed in subsections (a) and (b) of this section, the humane officer, dog warden or sheriff may cause the animal to be placed in the custody and care of a licensed veterinarian for that purpose at the owner's expense. The penalty for any violation of this section is a fine of fifty dollars or confinement in the county or regional jail for a period of no less than two nor more than three days.

§19-20-10. Dog and kennel fund; disposition thereof.

All registration fees, head taxes, and fees and costs for impounding and disposing of dogs, as provided in this article, and collected thereunder, shall be paid into the county treasury where they shall constitute and be set aside as a special fund to be designated the "dog and kennel fund."

The county commission shall expend such fund, and issue drafts payable therefrom, for the following purposes, and no others: To pay the actual expenses incurred by the county commission, the county assessor, and the sheriff in carrying out the provisions of this article; to pay for the services of the dog warden, his deputies, poundkeepers, and such other persons as may be employed, if any, or may render services, in actually carrying out the provisions of this article; to pay in its discretion to the dog warden and his deputies mileage at the rate up to fifteen cents per mile for the use of their privately owned vehicles actually used in carrying out the provisions of this article; to pay for the purchase, procurement, rental, construction, operation, maintenance and repair of any property, devices or facilities reasonably necessary and required to carry out the provisions of this article; to compensate any department of the state government or any local board of health for any necessary service rendered in connection with this article; to pay the costs of any rabies control project or program authorized by law; to compensate any persons who have suffered loss or damage on account of the destruction, loss, or injury by dogs of any sheep, lamb, goat, kid or poultry, when such claims have been proved and allowed as provided in this article: Provided, however, That such compensation

authorized by the county commission shall not exceed an amount double the assessed value of the destroyed or injured animals or poultry as shown on the assessor's records, and in the event such animals are not assessed, then compensation authorized by said court shall not exceed the average assessed value of like animals or poultry, or if no like animal or poultry is assessed, then not to exceed the fair market value as determined by the county commission.

In the event that the dog and kennel fund shall in any year be insufficient to pay the several items set forth in this section, then the county commission may be, and it is hereby, authorized and empowered to pay such items out of the county general fund. Any surplus of the dog and kennel fund remaining unexpended in the county treasury, and, in the opinion of the county commission, not needed for the payment and satisfaction of claims and expenses as herein provided, shall annually be paid into and credited to the county school fund, but the funds thus used shall be in an amount deemed proper and safe in the judgment and discretion of the county commission.

§19-20-11. Assessment of dogs as personal property.

In addition to the head tax on dogs provided for in this article, the owner of any dog above the age of six months shall be permitted to place a value on such dog and have such dog assessed as personal property in the same manner and at the same rate as other personal property.

....

§19-20-13. Dog running at large; liability of owner.

Any owner or keeper of any dog who permits such dog to run at large shall be liable for any damages inflicted upon the person or property of another by such dog while so running at large.

....

§19-20-19a. Dog warden and deputy dog wardens; power to issue citations.

The county commission may, at its discretion, empower county dog wardens and deputy dog wardens to issue citations for violation of provisions of this article.

§19-20-20. Keeping vicious dogs; humane officers may kill such dogs.

Except as provided in section twenty-one of this article, no person shall own, keep or harbor any dog known by him to be vicious, dangerous, or in the habit of biting or attacking other persons, whether or not such dog wears a tag or muzzle. Upon satisfactory proof before a circuit court or magistrate that such dog is vicious, dangerous, or in the habit of biting or attacking other persons or other dogs or animals, the judge may authorize the humane officer to cause such dog to be killed.

§19-20-21. License fee for keeping vicious or dangerous dog.

Any person who keeps a dog which is generally considered to be vicious, for the purpose of protection, shall acquire a special license therefor from the county assessor. The assessor shall charge ten dollars for such license. Such license shall be required in addition to the license required under section two of this article. The keeper or owner shall properly secure such dog in such a

manner so as to prevent injury to a person who lawfully passes through or enters upon the property of the keeper or owner. Nothing contained in this section shall constitute a defense to any action for personal injury, wrongful death or damage to property.

....

Note: Code updated with legislation passed through the 2008 2nd Extraordinary Session

## Appendix I-4

### Chapter 20, Natural Resources

§20-1-1. Purposes and objects of chapter; how chapter cited.

This chapter is enacted to provide a comprehensive program for the exploration, conservation, development, protection, enjoyment and use of the natural resources of the state of West Virginia and may be cited as the State Natural Resources Law.

....

§20-2-4. Possession of wildlife.

Except for wildlife, lawfully taken, killed, or obtained, no person shall have in his or her possession any wildlife, or parts thereof, during closed seasons. It is unlawful to possess any wildlife, or parts thereof, which have been illegally taken, killed or obtained. Any wildlife illegally taken, killed or possessed shall be forfeited to the state and shall be counted toward the daily, seasonal, bag, creel and possession limit of the person in possession of, or responsible for, the illegal taking or killing of any wildlife.

Wildlife lawfully taken outside of this state shall be subject to the same laws and rules as that taken within this state.

Migratory wild birds shall be possessed only in accordance with the "Migratory Bird Treaty Act" and regulations thereunder.

The restrictions in this section do not apply to the director or duly authorized agents, who may, in any manner, take or maintain in captivity, at any time, any wildlife for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this chapter.

Wildlife, except protected birds, spotted fawn, and bear cubs, killed or mortally wounded as a result of being accidentally or inadvertently struck by a motor vehicle may be lawfully possessed: Provided, That the possessor of such wildlife shall provide notice of the claim within twelve hours to a relevant law-enforcement agency, and obtain a nonhunting game tag within twenty-four hours of possession. The director shall propose administrative policy which shall address the means, methods and administrative procedures for implementing the provisions of this section.

....

§20-2-11. Sale of wildlife; transportation of same.

No person, except those legally licensed to operate private game preserves for the purpose of propagating game for commercial purposes and those legally licensed to propagate or sell fish, amphibians and other forms of aquatic life, shall purchase or offer to purchase, sell or offer to sell, expose for sale, or have in his or her possession for the purpose of sale any wildlife, or part thereof, which has been designated as game animals, fur-bearing animals, game birds, game fish or amphibians, or any of the song or insectivorous birds of the state, or any other species of wildlife which the director may designate: Provided, That pelts of game or fur-bearing animals taken during the legal season may be sold and live red and gray foxes and raccoon taken by legal methods during legal and established trapping seasons may be sold within the state: Provided, however, That hide, head, antlers and feet of a legally killed deer and the hide, head and skull of a legally killed black bear

may be sold.

No person, including a common carrier, shall transport, carry or convey, or receive for such purposes any wildlife, the sale of which is prohibited, if such person knows or has reason to believe that such wildlife has been or is to be sold in violation of this section.

The selling or exposing for sale, having in possession for sale, transporting or carrying in violation of this section shall each constitute a separate misdemeanor offense. Notwithstanding the provisions of this or any other section of this chapter, any game birds or game bird meats sold by licensed retailers may be served at any hotel, restaurant or other licensed eating place in this state.

The director shall have authority to promulgate rules in accordance with chapter twenty-nine-a of this code, dealing with the sale of wildlife and the skins thereof.

§20-2-12. Transportation of wildlife out of state; penalties.

(a) A person may not transport or have in his or her possession with the intention of transporting beyond the limits of the state any species of wildlife or any part thereof killed, taken, captured or caught within this state, except as provided in this section.

(1) A person legally entitled to hunt and fish in this state may take with him or her personally, when leaving the state, any wildlife that he or she has lawfully taken or killed, not exceeding, during the open season, the number that any person may lawfully possess.

(2) Licensed resident hunters and trappers and resident and nonresident fur dealers may transport beyond the limits of the state pelts of game and fur-bearing animals taken during the legal season.

(3) A person may transport the hide, head, antlers and feet of a legally killed deer and the hide, head, skull, organs and feet of a legally killed black bear beyond the limits of the state.

(4) A person legally entitled to possess an animal according to section four, article two of this chapter may transport that animal beyond the limits of the state.

(b) The director shall have authority to promulgate rules in accordance with chapter twenty-nine-a of this code dealing with the transportation and tagging of wildlife and the skins.

(c) A person violating the provisions of this section by transporting or possessing with the intention of transporting beyond the limits of this state deer or wild boar shall be deemed to have committed a separate offense for each animal so transported or possessed.

(d) A person violating the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall be fined not less than twenty dollars nor more than three hundred dollars and be imprisoned in jail not less than ten nor more than sixty days.

(e) This section does not apply to persons legally entitled to propagate and sell wild animals, wild birds, fish, amphibians and other forms of aquatic life beyond the limits of the state.

§20-2-13. Importation of wildlife; certification and inspection of imported wildlife.

No person shall transport into or have in his possession within this state any live wildlife or viable eggs thereof from without the state, except as authorized by an importation permit issued by the director: Provided, That the director shall not be authorized to issue a permit to any person to transport into this state any coyotes (*Canis latrans*). The director may issue at his discretion such permit as he is authorized to issue, fix the terms thereof and revoke it at his pleasure. Importers of fish or viable eggs of the family salmonidae (trout, char, salmon) shall furnish a statement from a recognized fish pathologist certifying the source to be free of whirling disease, infectious pancreatic necrosis, viral hemorrhagic septicemia or other diseases which may threaten fish stocks within the state.

Importers of wildlife species shall furnish disease free certification from pathologists, or veterinarians, as the director deems necessary to protect native populations.

All imported wildlife shall be subject to inspection by authorized agents of the department and such inspections may include biological examinations and the removal of a reasonable sample of fish or eggs for such purposes.

Any person violating any of the provisions of this section concerning coyotes shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction thereof, shall for each offense be fined not less than one hundred nor more than three hundred dollars, or confined in jail not less than ten nor more than one hundred days, or be both fined and imprisoned within the limitations aforesaid.

§20-2-14. Propagation of wildlife for commercial purposes.

No person shall propagate wildlife for commercial purposes except when licensed to do so as provided in section forty-seven of this article.

....

§20-2-50a. Wildlife damage control agents; licensing.

The director may issue a license to a person to act as a wildlife damage control agent. Unless otherwise prohibited by law, any person licensed as a wildlife damage control agent, acting pursuant to the license and subject to the rules promulgated by the director, is authorized to take and dispose of wildlife found by the wildlife damage control agent to be creating a nuisance in or around homes, businesses and other places where the presence of wildlife may be a nuisance. The director is authorized to impose and collect fees when issuing this license and the fees shall be deposited in the nongame wildlife fund. The director shall promulgate rules, pursuant to article three, chapter twenty-nine-a of this code, governing the issuance and use of the license and setting fees.

§20-2-51. Permit for keeping pets.

The director may issue a permit to a person to keep and maintain in captivity as a pet, a wild animal or wild bird that has been acquired from a commercial dealer or during the legal open season. The fee therefor shall be two dollars.

§20-2-52. Permits for roadside menageries.

The director may issue a permit for the keeping and maintaining in captivity of wild animals, wild birds, amphibians or reptiles as a roadside menagerie. A permit shall not be issued unless:



(1) The animals, birds, amphibians or reptiles have been purchased from a licensed commercial dealer, either within or without the state, or have been taken legally; or

(2) The director is satisfied that provisions for housing and care of wildlife to be kept in captivity and for the protection of the public are proper and adequate.

A fee of twenty-five dollars shall accompany each application for such permit.

....

Note: Code updated with legislation passed through the 2008 2nd Extraordinary Session

## **Appendix J-1**

### **Local Health Department (LHD)** **ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

[http://www.wvdhhr.org/wvlocalhealth/lhd\\_profiles/lhdreport/index.asp](http://www.wvdhhr.org/wvlocalhealth/lhd_profiles/lhdreport/index.asp)

- The LHDs should regularly assure that providers and other partners are aware of reporting requirements and have current reporting forms available. Partners may include: emergency room personnel, local physician offices, 911 centers, hospital infection control personnel, animal control officers and Sheriff's Department personnel.
- Upon receiving an animal encounter report, the local sanitarian or designee should determine the circumstances of the bite or encounter.
- Upon determining the circumstances of the bite or encounter, the LHD sanitarian must identify the owner of the animal or if it is a wild or a stray. If the animal is in another county the sanitarian must notify the LHD of the county to evaluate / confine / test the animal in question.
- The county Health Officer or designee must assure the confinement of the animal that has caused the encounter. If the animal has been killed or has died, the county Health Officer or designee will assure the animal is tested for rabies at the Office of Laboratory Services.
- The LHD designee will discuss exposure management with the victim or their legal guardian. Difficult questions can be referred to the Regional Epidemiologist or the DIDE Epidemiologist on call 24/7/365 at 1-800-423-1271. If the healthcare provider recommendations regarding PEP appear questionable or inadequate, the LHD will contact the provider to discuss. The local health officer or DIDE can assist in the consult to the provider.
- The LHD will enter the animal encounter data in the West Virginia Electronic Disease Surveillance System (WVEDSS) in the county which the animal encounter victim resides, using the Animal Bites and Other Potential Rabies Exposures reporting form.
- The LHD Health Officer or designee in which the animal resides will follow up on the animal confinement and inquire about the animal health immediately after the confinement period.
- The LHD designee will follow up with the victim after the confinement or after the laboratory results are known. The LHD designee will enter this additional information into WVEDSS and send follow-up report for Regional Review.
- LHD must assure that a veterinarian or other trained and vaccinated individual is available seven days a week to remove an animal's head when needed for rabies testing.
- The LHD should establish and follow written standards for documenting when an animal or a bite victim is lost to follow up. It is recommended that written standards be reviewed by legal counsel. Loss to follow up should be clearly documented according to written standards.
- The LHD should contact the West Virginia Department of Agriculture when there is a rabies case or potential exposure in livestock. Local health department personnel should observe appropriate

biosecurity as specified by agriculture when visiting a farm.

- WV-DNR and WV-USDA-APHIS (only in rabies active surveillance counties) should be consulted about any issues involving unusual or problematic wildlife rabies cases or potential exposures.

## **Appendix J-2**

### **OEHS Public Health Sanitation Division** **ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

1 Davis Square, Suite 200  
Washington & Capitol Streets  
Charleston, WV 25301-1798  
(304) 558-2981  
Fax: (304) 558-1071  
<http://www.wvdhhr.org/phs>

See the following page for District Office contact information.

The Public Health Sanitation Division of the Office of Environmental Health Services has a two-fold role in rabies prevention and response. From our central office in Charleston, the Division is responsible for providing technical assistance to Local Health Department (LHD) Sanitarians. Our staff are involved in a number of activities that aid LHDs:

- Coordinate and conduct the 8-week Sanitarian training course.
- Assist with development of agendas and provide instructors for District In-Service meetings and two annual meetings sponsored by the WV Association of Sanitarians.
- Maintain the environmental health procedures manual.
- Create and revise, or assist in the creation and revision of environmental health procedures memoranda.
- Maintain official environmental health forms and create and revise them as necessary.

From five district offices, located in Wheeling, Fairmont, Kearneysville, St. Albans, and Beckley; the Division's District Sanitarians provide hands-on assistance and guidance to LHD Sanitarians. Additionally, District Sanitarians often serve as back up and provide coverage for Sanitarians in LHDs with limited staff when they will be away from the office for an extended time.

Office of Environmental Health Services  
Public Health Sanitation Division

<http://www.wvdhhr.org/phs>

**Agency Contact Information**

**Central Office** (304) 558-2981 Fax: (304) 558-1071  
1 Davis Square, Suite 200  
Washington & Capitol Streets  
Charleston, WV 25301-1798

**Beckley District Office** (304) 256-6666 Fax: (304) 256-6672  
100 East Prince Street  
Beckley, WV 25801

Greenbrier, Fayette, Logan, Mercer, McDowell, Mingo, Monroe, Nicholas, Pocahontas,  
Raleigh, Summers, Webster, Wyoming

**Fairmont District Office** (304) 367-2751 Fax: (304) 367-2755  
109 Adams Street, Room 501  
Fairmont, WV 26554

Barbour, Braxton, Doddridge, Gilmer, Harrison, Lewis, Marion, Monongalia, Preston,  
Randolph, Taylor, Tucker, Upshur

**Kearneysville District Office** (304) 725-0348 Fax: (304) 725-3108  
1948 Wiltshire Road  
Kearneysville, WV 25430

Berkeley, Grant, Hampshire, Hardy, Jefferson, Mineral, Morgan, Pendleton

**Saint Albans District Office** (304) 722-0611 Fax: (304) 722-0615  
808 B Street, Suite G  
Saint Albans, WV 25177

Boone, Cabell, Clay, Jackson, Kanawha, Lincoln, Mason, Putnam, Wayne

**Wheeling District Office** (304) 238-1001 Fax: (304) 238-1002  
1060 Chapline Street, Room 117  
Wheeling, WV 26003

Brooke, Calhoun, Hancock, Marshall, Ohio, Pleasants, Ritchie, Roane, Tyler, Wetzel,  
Wirt, Wood

## **Appendix J-3**

### **WV Department of Agriculture** **ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

1900 Kanawha Boulevard, East  
State Capitol, Room E-28  
Charleston, WV 25305-0170  
(304) 558-3550  
(304) 558-2203 (fax)

<http://www.wvagriculture.org/index.html>

The West Virginia Department of Agriculture shall cause the destruction of suspected diseased livestock when such animals are deemed diseased as a result of physical examination or an approved test. The WVDA shall regulate and prohibit the moving or transportation of such animals from one place to another in the state. A legal quarantine requires coordination with the WVDA Division of Animal Health and at 304-558-2214. The WVDA website is [wvagriculture.org](http://www.wvagriculture.org).

## **Appendix J-4**

### **WV Department of Health and Human Resources** **Division of Infectious Disease Epidemiology** **ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

350 Capitol Street, Room 125,  
Charleston, WV 25301-3715  
(304) 558-5358 (800) 423-1271  
FAX: (304) 558-6335  
[www.wvidep.org](http://www.wvidep.org)

The Division of Infectious Disease Epidemiology works with local health departments and animal control officials to assist in the proper disposition and outcome of rabid and dangerous animals which are encountered in populated areas and pose an immediate risk to public health and safety. These functions are carried out through:

- Drafting policies and procedures for management of animal bites and potential rabies exposures
- Coordination with other agencies involved in animal bite and rabies management
- Collection, analysis and reporting of animal bite and rabies surveillance data
- Consultation on routine and difficult exposure management and post rabies exposure prophylaxis issues (24/7/365)
- Training and education of local health and other personnel in rabies and animal bite management, public health aspects of the oral rabies vaccination (ORV) project, and rabies surveillance.
- Public education regarding rabies and animal bites.

## **Appendix J-5**

### **USDA-APHIS-Wildlife Services** **ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

730 Yocum St  
Elkins, WV 26241  
(304) 636-1785  
FAX: (304) 636-5397  
<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/>

USDA APHIS Wildlife Services administers the Oral Rabies Vaccination Program in conjunction with State and local government partners. Specifically, Wildlife Services conducts enhanced surveillance within all or portions of 44 counties in West Virginia. These counties include: Hancock, Brooke, Ohio, Marshall, Tyler, Pleasants, Ritchie, Doddridge, Wetzel, Monongalia, Marion, Preston, Taylor, Harrison, Barbour, Tucker, Randolph, Upshur, Lewis, Gilmer, Webster, Braxton, Calhoun, Roane, Wirt, Wood, Jackson, Mason, Putnam, Cabell, Wayne, Kanawha, Clay, Nicholas, Fayette, Raleigh, Lincoln, Boone, Logan, Mingo, Wyoming, Mercer, Summers and McDowell. These counties may vary from year to year depending on strategic management decisions.

Wildlife Services Biologists and Specialists collect road kill and sick acting rabies vector species (raccoon, fox, bobcat, skunk, and coyote). Wildlife Services staff are available to collect pet and human exposure specimens at the request of the local health departments. All non-exposure samples collected by Wildlife Services will be tested at the USDA lab using the Direct Rapid Immunohistochemistry Test (DRIT). Any pet and human exposures will be sent to the WVDHHR for testing. Wildlife Services provides a summary of monthly test results to the WVDHHR and WVDNR. Additionally, Wildlife Services provides immediate notification to these agencies of positive rabies specimens tested in the USDA lab.

Wildlife Services provides information and education to partnering agencies and the public throughout West Virginia concerning ORV activities. Wildlife Services also provides training on brainstem extraction at the request of the WVDHHR for local and county officials.



## **Appendix J-6**

### **County Sheriff** **ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

Telephone: '911'

The County Sheriff is responsible for enforcement of local and state regulations as they apply to animal restraints or endangerment of human life or property from dogs or cats within their respective jurisdictional boundaries. The Sheriff may assign a Deputy or a number of deputies or a designated Humane Officer to assist enforcement obligations.

## **Appendix J-7**

### **West Virginia Division of Natural Resources (DNR)** **ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

West Virginia DNR  
Capitol Complex  
Building 3, Room 815  
Charleston, WV 25305  
Phone: (304) 558-2771  
Fax: (304) 558-3147  
<http://www.wvdnr.gov/>

West Virginia DNR, Law Enforcement  
4300 First Avenue, Suite 100  
Nitro, WV 25143  
Phone: (304) 759-0703  
Fax: (304) 759-0705

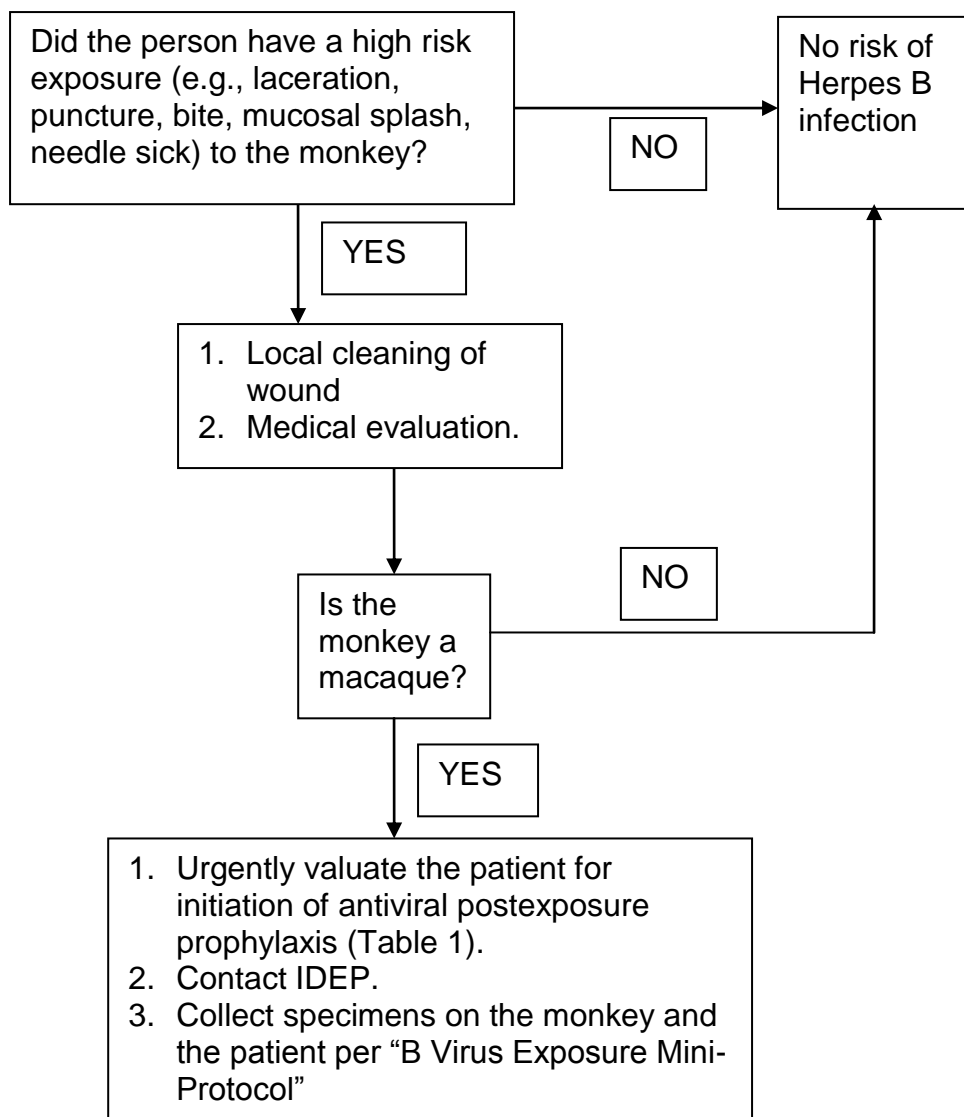
In addition to being notified about rabies in wildlife we need to be notified if a domestic animal becomes infected through a wildlife source.

## Appendix K

### Assessment of Herpes B Transmission Risk from a Monkey Bite

Why? Herpes B virus can cause a rapidly lethal encephalitis in humans. Herpes B virus infection is common in Macaque Monkeys.

Evaluation and management steps:



Source: <http://www2.gsu.edu/~wwwvir/>

## Table 1

### Recommendations for post-exposure prophylaxis for persons exposed to B virus

Source: Cohen JI, Davenport DS, Stewart JA, Deitchman S, Hilliard JK, Chapman LE, and the B Virus Working Group. Recommendations for prevention of and therapy for exposure to B virus. *CID*, 2002; 35:1191-1203.

**Table 5. Recommendations for postexposure prophylaxis for persons exposed to B virus.**

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Prophylaxis recommended
Skin exposure <sup>a</sup> (with loss of skin integrity) or mucosal exposure (with or without injury) to a high-risk source (e.g., a macaque that is ill, immunocompromised, or known to be shedding virus or that has lesions compatible with B virus disease)
Inadequately cleaned skin exposure (with loss of skin integrity) or mucosal exposure (with or without injury)
Laceration of the head, neck, or torso
Deep puncture bite
Needlestick associated with tissue or fluid from the nervous system, lesions suspicious for B virus, eyelids, or mucosa
Puncture or laceration after exposure to objects (a) contaminated either with fluid from monkey oral or genital lesions or with nervous system tissues, or (b) known to contain B virus
A postcleansing culture is positive for B virus
Prophylaxis considered
Mucosal splash that has been adequately cleaned
Laceration (with loss of skin integrity) that has been adequately cleaned
Needlestick involving blood from an ill or immunocompromised macaque
Puncture or laceration occurring after exposure to (a) objects contaminated with body fluid (other than that from a lesion), or (b) potentially infected cell culture
Prophylaxis not recommended
Skin exposure in which the skin remains intact
Exposure associated with nonmacaque species of nonhuman primates

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<sup>a</sup> Exposures include macaque bites; macaque scratches; or contact with ocular, oral, or genital secretions, nervous system tissue, or material contaminated by macaques (e.g., cages or equipment) (see the Postexposure Prophylaxis section of the text for details).



National B Virus Resource Center  
Viral Immunology Center  
Georgia State University  
50 Decatur Street  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303



## B VIRUS EXPOSURE MINI-PROTOCOL

The following is a checklist for recommended samples to be submitted for herpes B virus testing. Please familiarize yourself and your staff with this checklist and please refer to this when submitting specimens to our laboratory. Thank you.

### BASELINE/DAY OF INJURY SAMPLES

- 1. Human baseline serum (0.5 - 2.0 ml) collected as close as possible to the time of injury.
- 2. Primate baseline serum (0.5 - 2.0 ml) collected as close as possible to the time of injury.
- 3. Human virology swab samples of the wound site or exposed area as applicable. This specimen should be collected as soon as possible after the injury, after the site has been disinfected.
- 4. Primate virology swab samples of the buccal cavity, right eye, left eye, and genitalia. Please use one swab per site and send in separate media tubes. These specimens must be collected as close as possible to the time of injury, as specimens collected later may not accurately reflect the monkey's status at the time of injury.

### FOLLOW-UP/14 - 21 DAY POST INJURY SAMPLES

- 1. Human follow-up serum (0.5 - 2.0 ml).
- 2. Primate follow-up serum (0.5 - 2.0 ml).

### IMPORTANT COMMENTS

1. Please refer to the document *Recommendations on Sample Collection, Storage, & Shipment* for complete instructions for specimen collection, handling, and shipment.
2. Because we test paired specimens, the failure to submit a baseline or follow-up serum sample will result in insufficient specimens for complete testing, potentially resulting in unreliable diagnosis.
3. Fill out the submission form completely and correctly. Please verify that all information is **identical** to the specimen labels.
4. Label all specimens clearly with the permanent name or ID, date of collection, virology swab collection site, and/or tissue source. Failure to correctly label specimens may result in incomplete results. Mislabeled or unlabeled specimens may not be tested.
5. Do not label specimen tubes with extra information that is not indicated above. Cage #'s, study #'s, experiment #'s, investigator's name, etc. are unnecessary and confusing when trying to identify the sample.
6. Be sure all whole blood samples (if submitted for serum antibody testing) are spun and separated. Remove the serum and transfer to a properly labeled plastic tube for shipment to our laboratory.
7. On occasion, it will not be possible to provide our laboratory with the requested specimens because the associated monkey is unidentifiable, was euthanatized, the injury was reported late, etc. If for any reason you are unable to collect the appropriate specimens, please note that information on the submission form.

(OVER)

Address packages to:

National B Virus Resource Center  
Viral Immunology Center  
Georgia State University  
50 Decatur Street  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Address correspondence to:

National B Virus Resource Center  
Viral Immunology Center  
Georgia State University  
P.O. Box 4118  
Atlanta, Ga. 30302-4118

Emergency Phone Numbers:

National B Virus Resource Center:

Dr. Julia K. Hilliard, Ph.D.  
Laboratory Director

Emergency

Ph: 404-413-6550  
Fax: 404-413-6556  
email: bvirus@gsu.edu

Ph: 404-358-8168

Martin J. Wildes, MT (AAB)  
Laboratory Manager

Emergency

Ph: 404-413-6566  
Fax: 404-413-6556  
email: mwildes@gsu.edu  
Pager: 1-888-500-3504

World Wide Web site:

<http://www.gsu.edu/bvirus>

Primary Clinical Consultants

Dr. Norman Bernstein, M.D.  
Dr. David Davenport, M.D.

540-374-3277  
269-341-6400  
email: ddave@chartermi.net

PRE-SHIPMENT CHECK-LIST

Before shipping your samples to our laboratory, please make sure you have:  
(reference instructions, *Recommendations on Sample Collection, Storage, & Shipment*)

- contacted our laboratory to alert us of your shipment.
- used appropriate primary and secondary shipping containers with adequate absorbent material and used the proper labels on the outside of the containers (reference *Federal Register* 42 CFR Part 72).
- packed with at least 5 pounds of appropriate coolant.
- used appropriate delivery address.
- not used glass specimen tubes.
- provided a contact name and phone number in case of emergency.
- marked the package and courier form for "SATURDAY DELIVERY" if shipping on a Friday.
- that the paperwork is properly filled out and that the specimen tubes are labeled to match the paperwork.