MICHIGAN RABIES ASSESSMENT: WHEN AN ANIMAL HAS BEEN EXPOSED

DOG/CAT

Animal Species Exposed¹

FERRET/LIVESTOCK

Exposed dog/cat has documentation of current OR previous rabies vaccination ²

Exposed ferret/livestock has documentation of current rabies vaccination ³

YES

YES

- 1. Revaccinate immediately, and
- 2. Have owner observe for 45 days, and
- 3. Euthanize <u>and test dog/cat/ferret/livestock</u> for rabies if it becomes ill with signs suggestive of rabies, or dies during observation period.

END

NO

NO

Is the biting animal available for testing?

NO

YES

Immediately euthanize exposed dog/cat/ferret/livestock *

* If owner refuses euthanasia, see options below

OPTION 1

- Within 96 hours of exposure: Rabies vaccine booster, and strict quarantine for 4 months for dogs and cats, 6 months for ferrets and livestock.
- Euthanize and test dog/cat/ferret/livestock for rabies if it becomes ill, with signs suggestive of rabies, or dies during quarantine period.

OPTION 2

(Cats and dogs only) Consult the Michigan Department of Agriculture & Rural Development¹ regarding the possibility of using serologic monitoring for rabies antibodies.

Send to MDHHS Laboratory for rabies testing

Results Positive Results Negative

Vaccinate dog/cat/ferret/livestock against rabies

END



www.michigan.gov/rabies

[1] For questions about exposure:

- 1. Call your veterinarian, animal control office and/or local health department.
- 2. If they are unavailable, *during business hours*, call the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) at (800) 292-3939 **OR** the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) at (517) 335-8165.
- 3. After 5:00 PM and weekends, call MDARD at (517) 373-0440 OR MDHHS at (517) 335-9030.
- [2] Current vaccination means administered by a veterinarian within 1 or 3 years from previous vaccination, depending on vaccine used. An animal is considered "previously" vaccinated against rabies if the owner has documentation showing that a licensed veterinarian has ever administered a vaccine product approved for use in that species.
- [3] Ferret/Livestock: An animal is considered "currently" vaccinated against rabies if a licensed veterinarian has administered a vaccine product approved for use in that species within 1 or 3 years, depending on the vaccine used. Consideration should be given to vaccinating livestock that are particularly valuable. Animals that have frequent contact with humans (e.g., in petting zoos, fairs and other public exhibitions) and horses traveling interstate should be currently vaccinated.

MICHIGAN RABIES ASSESSMENT: WHEN ANIMALS HAVE BITTEN PEOPLE 4



WILD ANIMAL (MAMMAL)

OWNED DOG/CAT/FERRET (Vaccinated or Unvaccinated)

STRAY DOG/CAT/FERRET 6 (Vaccination status unknown) **OTHER DOMESTIC** MAMMAL 5

Euthanize and test if appropriate species 8

Is animal showing signs of rabies?

Is animal showing signs of rabies?

NO

YES

YES

NO

Does owner want animal? **Euthanize** and test

YFS

NO

Confine animal for 10 days from the day of the

bite *

Test if animal becomes ill, with signs suggestive of rabies,

or dies during confinement

OPTION 1

Euthanize and test

OPTION 2

Confine animal for 10 days from the day of the bite. If it remains healthy, it is considered rabies-free at the end of confinement. *

OPTION 1

Confine for required holding time, if applicable ⁷, then euthanize and test

OPTION 2

Confine animal for 10 days from the day of bite. If it remains healthy, it is considered rabies-free at the end of confinement. *

Test if animal becomes ill, with signs suggestive of rabies, or dies during confinement

- [4] Regardless of rabies vaccination status. Though rabies in animals vaccinated against rabies is rare, vaccinated animals can still develop rabies.
- [5] Livestock and exhibit animals that bite people are assessed individually (a separate zoo animal rabies flowchart is available @ www.michigan.gov/rabies). In all instances of other domestic animal species, contact the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) at (517) 335-8165 OR notify the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) at (800) 292-3939.
- [6] State law requires that all stray dogs be reported to animal control within 48 hours of a person taking possession of the animal. Ensure animal has been reported.
- Contact local animal control office where the animal is located for required hold times.

Chipmunk Mole Rat Gerbil Shrew Mouse Gopher Muskrat Squirrel Guinea Pig Prairie Dog Vole Hamster Rabbit

[8] The animals listed above are rarely infected with rabies and have not been known to transmit rabies to humans. These species will not be tested except by special arrangement with MDHHS at (517) 335-8165. After 5:00 PM and on weekends, dial (517) 335-9030.



^{*} At the end of 10 day confinement, a healthy animal with unknown or no rabies vaccination history should be given initial rabies vaccine dose.