



Ducky... the Rabid Cat of Lane County

Oregon Epidemiologists' Meeting 2018

October 9 2018

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PUBLIC HEALTH

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Rabies History in Lane County

- Rabies is endemic in Oregon
- Rare in dogs and cats
- No cats had tested positive for rabies
- Dog tested positive in the 1980's



Background: Rabies Virus

- Family Rhabdoviridae, genus Lyssavirus
- Clinically: acute viral zoonotic disease
- Classical rabies virus only species in U.S.
- Causes 99.9% infections worldwide
- 55,000 people still die yearly from rabies



May 8, 2017



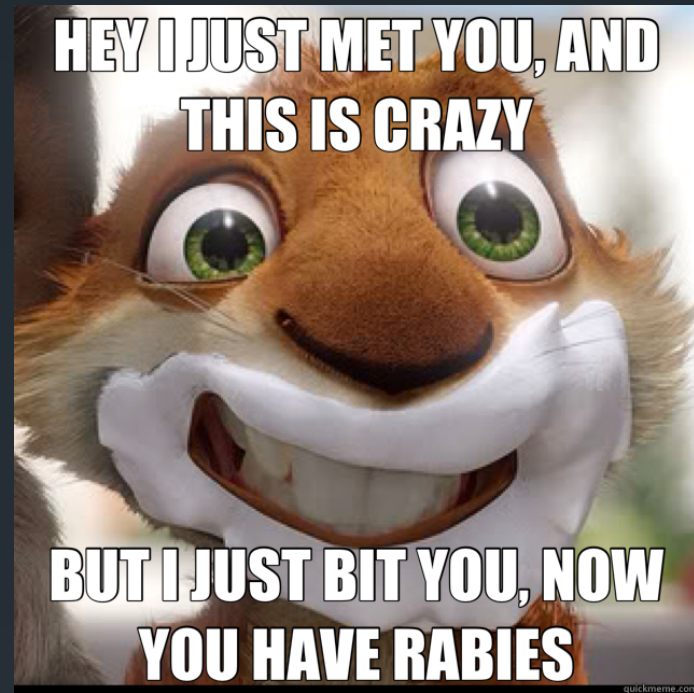
- Lane County EH received a call from a local veterinary clinic reporting a cat bit a veterinary technician
- Veterinarian thought this cat was acting abnormal
- Local animal control officer thought animal was acting abnormal
- The situation surrounding the bite was suspicious.
- Owner opted for euthanization and head was shipped to OSPHL

Rabies Transmission

- Spread through saliva from infected animal
- Can also be spread through brain tissue
- Travels via nerves to spinal cord and brain



May 10, 2017



- Dr. DeBess reported positive rabies test for cat
- Follow up with the veterinary clinic and victim was immediately initiated
- Follow up with the animal owner was immediately initiated
- Notification to the LC Communicable Disease
- Information entered into Orpheus

Also Wednesday May 10, 2017

CD Nurse gets a call from EH

- And does some research...



control of communicable... oregon.gov

Animal Bites and Rabies

1. REPORTING AND FOLLOW-UP

1.1 Purpose of Reporting and Surveillance

1. To assess the risk of rabies exposure in persons bitten or otherwise exposed to animal saliva, in order to recommend post-exposure rabies prophylaxis (PEP) to those who need it, and to provide counseling and reassurance to those who don't.
2. As necessary, to arrange for the capture and either confinement (10-day observation) of a live dog cat or ferret, or the laboratory examination of an animal head. This may involve coordination with other agencies, e.g., the Humane Society, county sanitarians, animal control, and local law enforcement.

1.2 Reporting Requirements

1. Anyone with knowledge of humans being bitten by potentially rabid animals (e.g., physicians, veterinarians, animal control personnel, law enforcement officials, or animal owners) is required to report such incidents to the LHD within one working day.
2. Any confirmed case of rabies in animals and any suspected or confirmed case of human rabies must be reported immediately (day or night) to the LHD, or — if LHD staff cannot be contacted — to OHA.

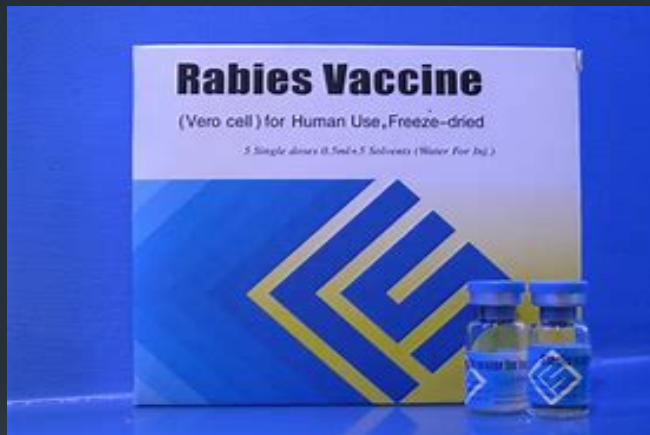
1.3 Local Health Department Reporting and Follow-Up Responsibilities

1. Whenever possible, animal bites should be investigated on the day of report.

8:50:11.00 in

Post-Exposure Rabies Prophylaxis

Rabies Vaccine



RIG



U.S. Vaccine Schedule: 4 doses days 0, 3, 7, 14
RIG infused around wound on day 0

Springfield Animal Control



Coordination

- Consults with local vet clinics
- Consults with Public Health
- Educating the community on the care and laws regarding pets.

Rabies Period of Communicability

- 3-10 days before onset of symptoms
- Studies done in dogs, cat, ferrets
- Usually not >4 days



Back to May 10th

CD Nurse Interview

- Who needed PERP?
 - Cat owner
 - Vet tech
 - Veterinarian
 - RN followed up to ensure timely completion



Thursday May 11, 2017

Possible Additional Exposures

Veterinary Clinic

- Veterinarian who examined the cat had a scratch but no bite
- Additional vet tech who helped remove the cat from the victims head had no scratches or bites
- Veterinarian who performed the decapitation on the cat had no scratches or bites but was exposed to the cats blood.

Cat Owners Home

- Cat owner had scratches
- Family who visited that weekend prior to the incident no scratches or bite.



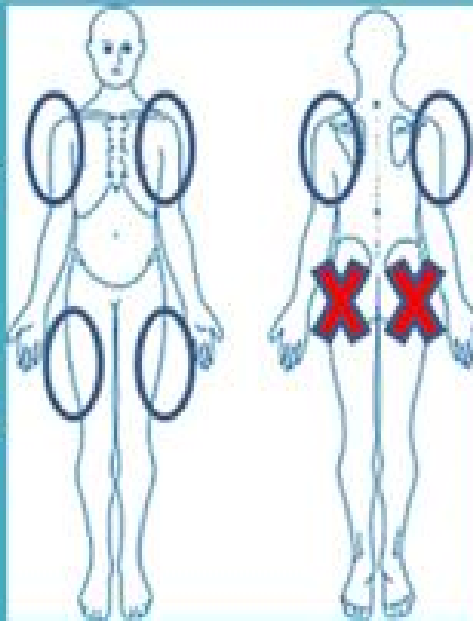
Where can you get PERP?

- *No, not anatomically.....in Lane County*

Human Rabies Immune Globulin and Rabies Vaccine Administration Sites

Deltoid IM for adults and children

Anterolateral thigh IM OK for infants and small children



DO NOT GIVE RABIES VACCINE OR HRIG IN GLUTEAL



May 11, 2017, Press Release!

Press Release

- Announced cat tested positive
- Public Health Officer gave a statement about vaccinating animals
- What is rabies
- Symptoms in wildlife
- Bat reservoirs

Talking Points

- Cat had limited exposure to other animals
- This does not mean there is a higher risk of rabies
- Rare in cats and dogs
- Vaccinate your animals





VISIT LANE COUNTY ONLINE AT
[HTTP://WWW.LANECOUNTY.ORG/NEWS/](http://www.lanecounty.org/news/)
For current news and archives

For Immediate Release 5/11/2017

Cat in Lane County tests positive for rabies

Public health officials recommend vaccinating pets, not feeding wild animals

Contact: Devon Ashbridge, public information officer – 541-682-4526

A Springfield cat has tested positive for the rabies virus. While rabies is endemic in Oregon's bat population, it is rarely seen in cats or other pets.

"All dogs and cats should be vaccinated against rabies," said Dr. Pat Luedtke, Lane County's public health officer. "Protecting pets against the disease creates a buffer between humans and wild animals that may carry the disease and limits the potential spread of rabies. In this case the cat was not vaccinated; luckily it had limited exposure to other animals after infection."

Rabies is a viral disease that affects the nervous system of humans and mammals. It is almost 100 percent fatal once symptoms begin. The virus is carried in the saliva of an infected animal; transmission can occur when that animal bites, or in rare instances, scratches another. Residents should not handle bats with bare hands and should keep their pets' rabies immunizations up to date. If bitten by a bat or animal suspected of carrying rabies, people should immediately, thoroughly clean the bite wound with soap and water and seek medical attention. If possible, the animal should be captured and the event reported to the county health department.

Rabies symptoms in wildlife include lethargy, walking in circles, loss of muscular coordination, convulsions, irritability or aggressiveness, disorientation, excessive drooling of saliva, and showing no fear of humans. Report this type of behavior to Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFWL) at 1-800-720-6339.

Typically, animals acquire rabies by eating or coming in contact with a rabid bat. About 10 percent of the bats tested every year in Oregon have rabies. In 2016, 15 bats tested positive for rabies across Oregon; there were no confirmed cases in other mammals that year. Rabies in other wildlife is rare. However, if you know your pet has encountered a bat or been bitten by a wild animal, contact your veterinarian immediately.

Preventative Recommendations:

- Vaccinate pets (dogs and cats) against rabies.
- Watch wildlife from a distance. Don't approach or attempt to handle wild animals.
- Do not feed wild animals.

Lane County Government will work to create a prosperous community by providing collaborative leadership, fair and inclusive decision making and excellent sustainable local governmental services to our residents and guests.

Lane County Government 125 E. 8th Ave., Eugene, OR 97401 541.682.4203

- Keep garbage in secure containers and away from wildlife.
- Feed pets indoors.
- Seal openings in attics, basements, porches, sheds, barns and screen chimneys that might provide access to bats and other wildlife.

###

Symptoms of Rabies: “Furious” vs “Dumb”

Furious rabies

Affects **80%** of infected people

Paranoia, **terror**, hallucinations,
and finally, delirium

Insomnia

Hydrophobia (fear of water)

- Over-salivating
- Difficulty swallowing
- Extremely painful **muscle spasms** in throat & larynx
- **Panics** at the sight of water
- Unquenchable thirst

Hyperactivity

Death by **cardiac arrest**

Paralytic rabies

Affects **20%** of infected people

Less dramatic and usually
LONGER course than
furious rabies

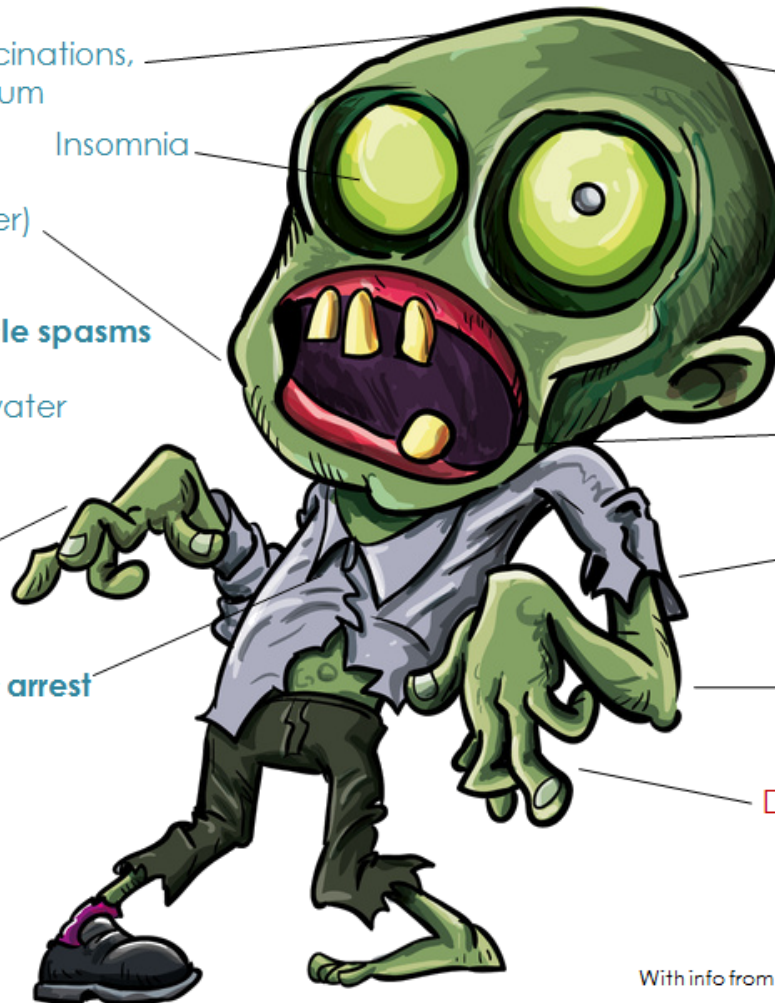
Gradual **coma**

NO hydrophobia

Muscle weakness
& loss of sensation

Paralysis

Death



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ARCHIVE

LOCAL NEWS

Cat euthanized in county's first feline rabies case on record

BY ALISHA ROEMELING

The Register-Guard

APPEARED IN PRINT: FRIDAY, MAY 12, 2017, PAGE A1

SPRINGFIELD — A cat in west Springfield has tested positive for rabies in the first feline infection recorded in Lane County in nearly 60 years, county officials said Thursday.

Lane County spokeswoman Devon Ashbridge said Thursday that the cat was found alive but suffering from symptoms of the disease.

The cat was a family pet that had not been vaccinated, according to the county's public health officer, Pat Luedtke, who said it was brought into a veterinarian Monday after its owners noticed it had been "acting strangely."

Luedtke said the veterinarian and other staff members assessed the cat and determined it had contracted rabies. The disease is fatal once the infected animal or human shows rabid symptoms.

The cat was euthanized and sent to the state's testing center in Portland, where it was determined to be carrying the virus.

The disease is rarely found in pets, and officials used the occasion to urge owners to

Cat tests positive for rabies in Springfield

by News Staff | Thursday, May 11th 2017



"All dogs and cats should be vaccinated against rabies," said Dr. Pat Luedtke, Lane County's public health officer. "Protecting pets against the disease creates a buffer between humans and wild animals that may carry the disease and limits the potential spread of rabies. In this case the cat was not vaccinated; luckily it had limited exposure to other animals after infection." (SBG File)



VIEW PHOTO GALLERY

9 photos



SPRINGFIELD, Ore. - A pet cat has been euthanized after testing positive for rabies, Lane County Public Health said Thursday.

"While rabies is endemic in Oregon's bat population, it is rarely seen in cats or other pets," the agency said in a statement.



ADVERTISEMENT

TRENDING

- 1 AN HOUR AGO
Two dead in Hwy 99N crash near Meadow Lake
- 2 5 HOURS AGO
Portland newspaper places lien against home of Cylvia Hayes
- 3 16 MINUTES AGO
Crash on Hwy 99 near Lingo Lane kills driver on pickup
- 4 22 MINUTES AGO
California troopers ID two women, one from West Linn, who died after driving off cliff
- 5 17 HOURS AGO
20-year-old has bicycle

Mass Vax Clinic

- Local veterinary clinics offered low cost rabies vaccination clinics
- One local veterinarian did a press release regarding pet vaccination

Cascade Animal Clinic is offering a \$5 rabies vaccine clinic-

901 W centennial Blvd
Springfield, OR 97477
541-741-1992

Tuesday 5/16//17 5 PM - 7 PM

Wednesday 8 AM - 12 PM

Saturday 1 PM - 3 PM

No appointment needed, walk in, first come, first serve. Cat rabies vaccine and dog rabies vaccine, DHPP and FVRCP available too. All rabies vaccines are \$5! Please help keep us to keep your beloved pets safe from rabies.

Willamette Animal Guild \$18 rabies vaccines

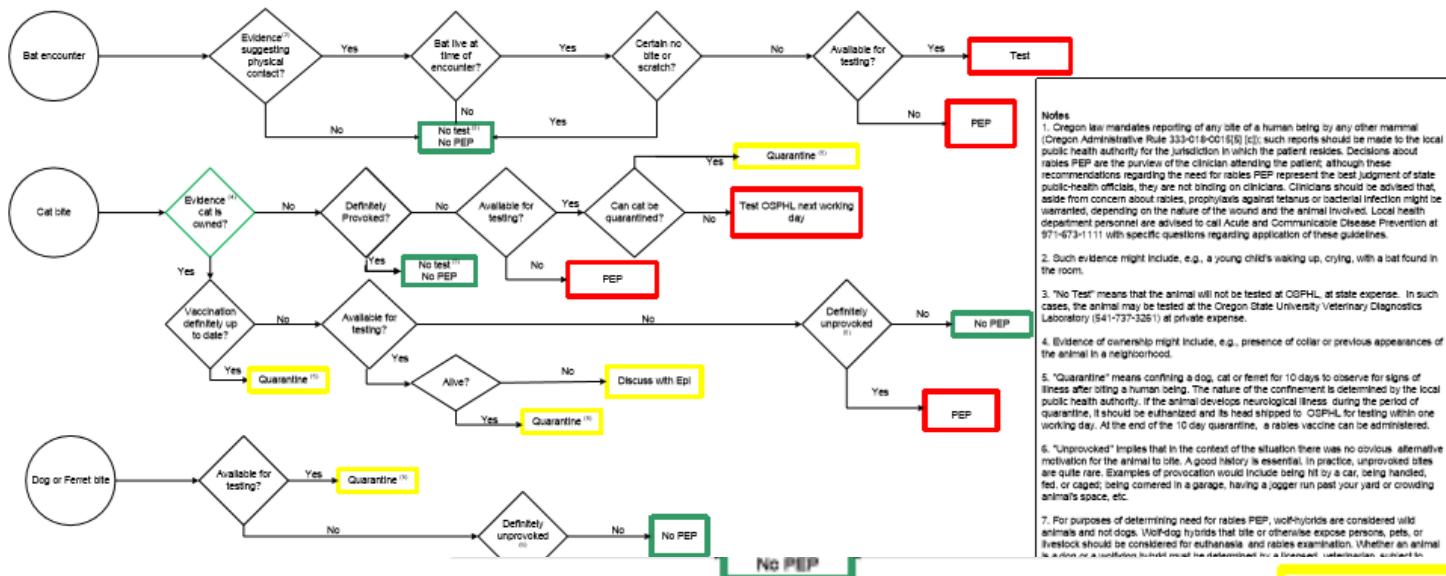
3045 Royal Ave
Eugene, OR 97402
541-345-3566
<http://wagwag.org/services/>

Eugene Spay and Neuter Clinic \$18 rabies vaccine

W 1st Ave Eugene
OR 97402
541-682-3643 390

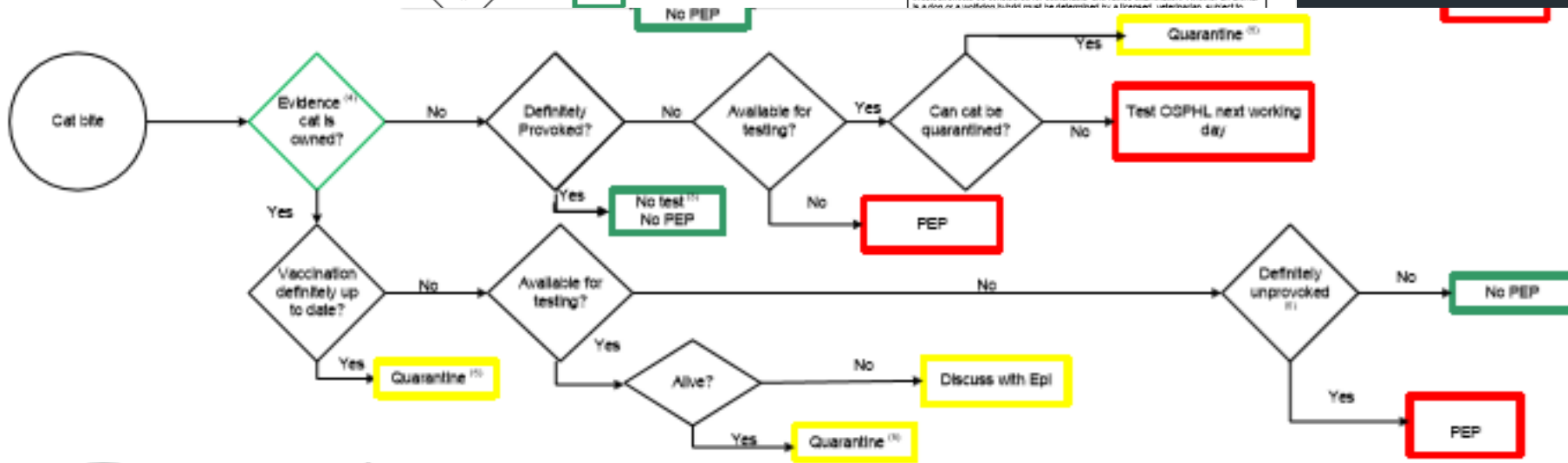
Rabies Algorithm: Animal to Human

Algorithm for Prevention of Rabies After Animal Encounters in Oregon ⁽¹⁾



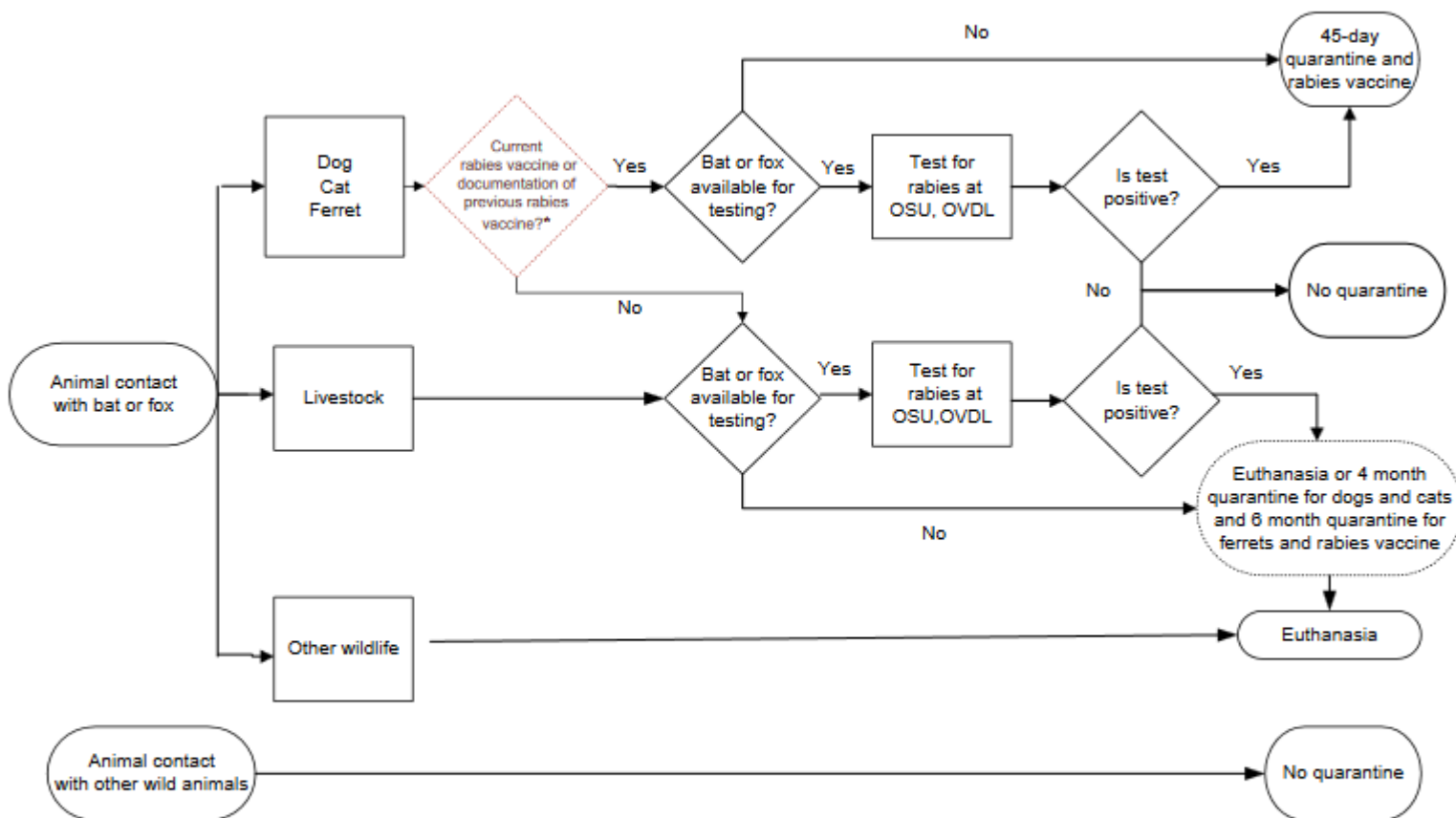
Notes

1. Oregon law mandates reporting of any bite of a human being by any other mammal (Oregon Administrative Rule 333-018-001(5)(c)); such reports should be made to the local public health authority for the jurisdiction in which the patient resides. Decisions about rabies PEP are the purview of the clinician attending the patient; although these recommendations regarding the need for rabies PEP represent the best judgment of state public-health officials, they are not binding on clinicians. Clinicians should be advised that, aside from concern about rabies, prophylaxis against tetanus or bacterial infection might be warranted, depending on the nature of the wound and the animal involved. Local health department personnel are advised to call Acute and Communicable Disease Prevention at 971-673-1111 with specific questions regarding application of these guidelines.
2. Such evidence might include, e.g., a young child's waking up, crying, with a bat found in the room.
3. "No Test" means that the animal will not be tested at OSPHL, at state expense. In such cases, the animal may be tested at the Oregon State University Veterinary Diagnostics Laboratory (541-737-3251) at private expense.
4. Evidence of ownership might include, e.g., presence of collar or previous appearances of the animal in a neighborhood.
5. "Quarantine" means confining a dog, cat or ferret for 10 days to observe for signs of illness after biting a human being. The nature of the confinement is determined by the local public health authority. If the animal develops neurological illness during the period of quarantine, it should be euthanized and its head shipped to OSPHL for testing within one working day. At the end of the 10 day quarantine, a rabies vaccine can be administered.
6. "Unprovoked" implies that in the context of the situation there was no obvious alternative motivation for the animal to bite. A good history is essential. In practice, unprovoked bites are quite rare. Examples of provocation would include being hit by a car, being handled, fed, or caged; being cornered in a garage, having a jogger run past your yard or crowding animal's space, etc.
7. For purposes of determining need for rabies PEP, wolf-hybrids are considered wild animals and not dogs. Wolf-dog hybrids that bite or otherwise expose persons, pets, or livestock should be considered for euthanasia and rabies examination. Whether an animal is a dog or a wolf-dog hybrid must be determined by a trained veterinarian.



Rabies Algorithm: Animal to Animal

Algorithm for Prevention of Rabies
Animal to Animal Contact, 2017



* Current on vaccines implies having the appropriate documentation such as an actual copy of the rabies certificate.
NOTE: Testing of any wild animals that may have exposed a pet to rabies will be at the expense of the pet's owner

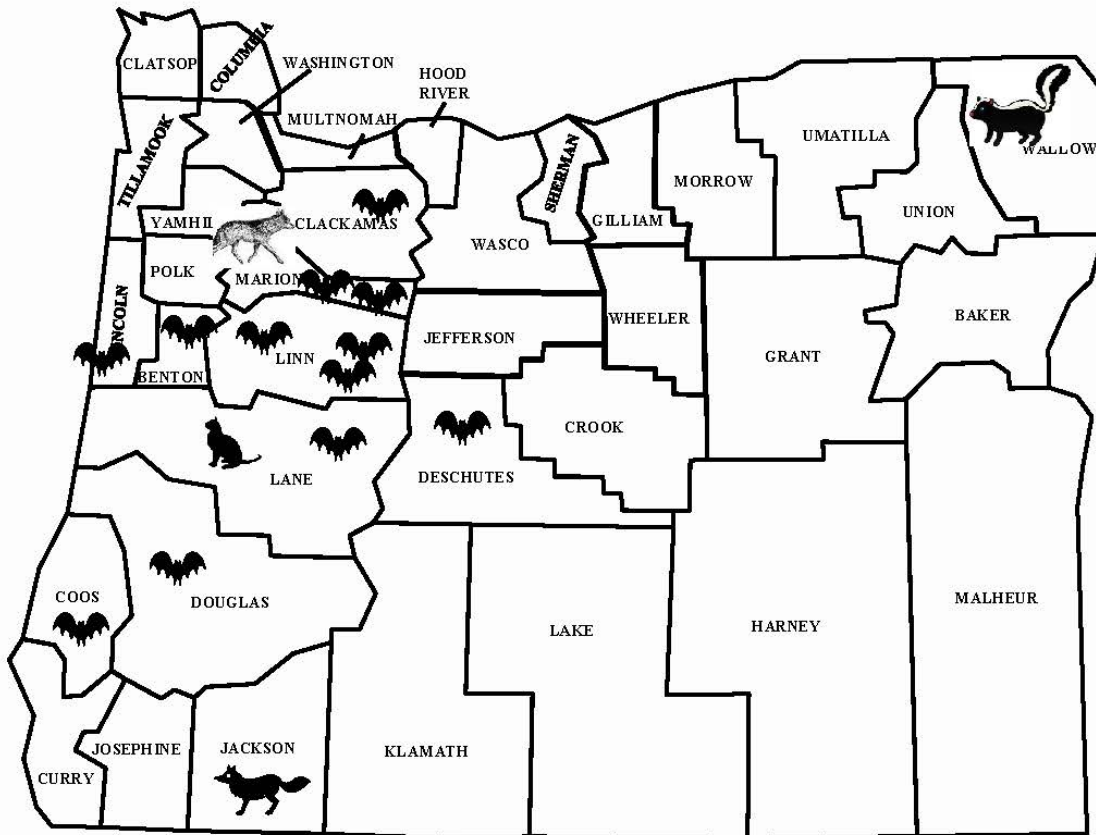
Compendium of Animal Rabies Prevention and Control, 2016
<http://nasphv.org/Documents/NASPHVRabiesCompendium.pdf>

QUARANTINE

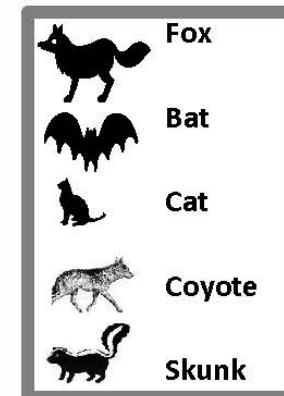
When quarantine is recommended, strict quarantine is required without outdoor access (dogs may be taken outside and should be on a leash at all times). Human contact should be limited to one person only and no other animals.

2017 Oregon Rabies

Rabies-positive Animals Oregon, 2017



Month	County	Species
May	Lane	1 Cat
June	Douglas	1 Bat
July	Benton	1 Bat
July	Deschutes	1 Bat
August	Marion	2 Bats
	Linn	1 Bat
	Lincoln	1 Bat
	Linn	2 Bats
September	Lane	1 Bat
	Clackamas	1 Bat
October	Coos	1 Bat
	Jackson	1 Fox
	Marion	1 Coyote
	Wallowa	1 Skunk



Questions?

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