



Community Information Exchange: Rabies Risk in Colorado Springs

**Evans Army Community Hospital
Fort Carson, Colorado**



Rabies Risk in Colorado Springs

BATS



S K U N K S



- **Only mammals can carry Rabies**
- **Domestic animals like dogs, cats and ferrets are low risk in this area**
- **Small wild animals like squirrels, rabbits, chipmunks etc. are not considered a risk**

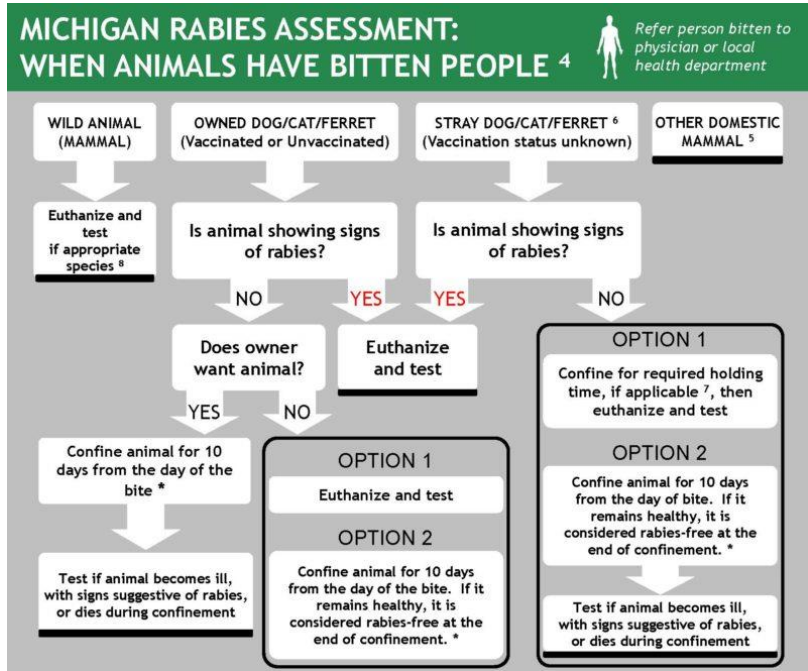
- **What is rabies?**
 - Rabies is a virus
- **What does rabies virus do?**
 - Moves from the nerves to the brain
 - Rabies DEADLY for humans
- **How is rabies transmitted?**
 - A scratch or bite = Saliva
- **How can exposure be prevented?**
 - Do not feed or approach wildlife
 - Get vaccinated before travel to a high risk area
 - Get vaccinated if working with high risk animals
- **What if I have contact with a bat or skunk?**
 - Go to Evans emergency room to be assessed for exposure risk.
 - If you can safely collect the animal, bring it to the FT Carson veterinary clinic for testing
- **If I am exposed, then what ?**
 - Evans is very experienced with administrating the Rabies Post Exposure Prophylaxis, called Rabies PEP.
 - Rabies PEP is very successful at preventing rabies virus in humans who have been exposed



Prevention, Bite Reports, & Quarantine



- **Prevention**
 - Vaccinate your pet
 - Reduce pet exposure to wild life
 - Spay and neuter animals to limit stray animals
 - Report stray or ill looking wild animals to animal control
- **Bite Report**
 - If you or a loved one is bitten by an animal, go to the Emergency Room at Evans and complete an Animal Bite Report (DD2341)
 - Ensure patient information is correct
 - Get as much information as possible regarding the biting animal
- **Quarantine**
 - Initial Exam: Domestic animals are required to be examined by a veterinarian for signs of rabies
 - Quarantine occurs for 10 days
 - End of quarantine exam





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Questions and Discussion

