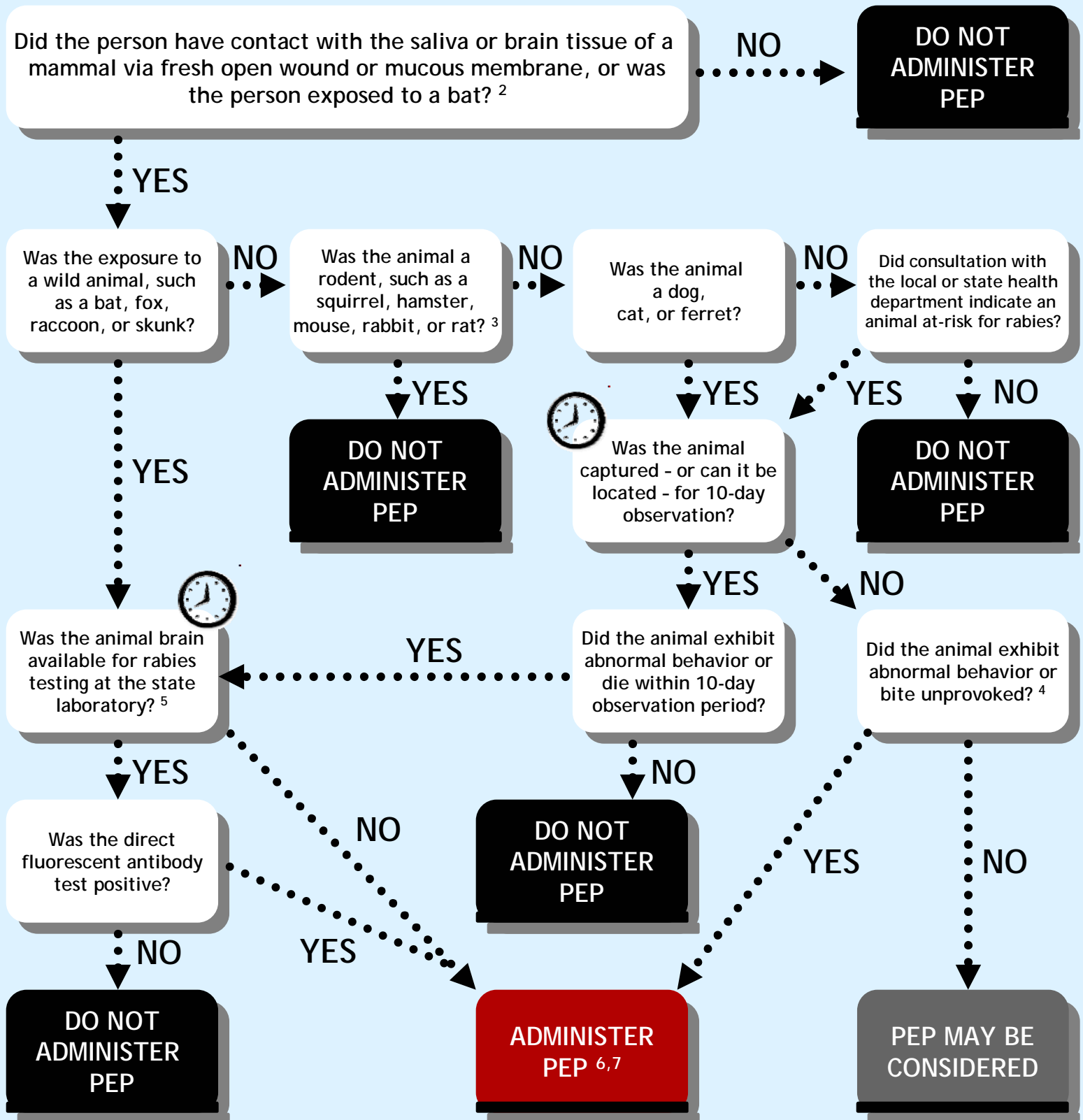


HUMAN RABIES POST-EXPOSURE PROPHYLAXIS (PEP) PROTOCOL ¹



Immediately consult with local or state public health officials

Michigan law requires that animal bites be immediately reported to the local health department



Rabies PEP is a medical urgency, not an emergency. The decision to initiate rabies PEP can normally wait 48-72 hours to determine whether an animal is available for testing or observation, and for test results to become available.

SEE IMPORTANT INFORMATION ON REVERSE SIDE

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

1. **R**abies risk assessment requires balancing a number of criteria: the species of animal and the endemicity of rabies for that species for Michigan, the observed health and behavior of the animal, and the circumstances of the bite. This algorithm only addresses rabies post-exposure prophylaxis. Other treatment such as wound care, antibiotics, and tetanus immunization may be indicated.

2. **I**n addition to obvious bites or mucous membrane exposures, the CDC suggests that PEP be considered in cases where there is a reasonable probability that contact with a bat may have occurred (i.e. a deeply sleeping person awakens to find a bat in the same room, an adult witnesses a bat in a room with a previously unattended child, mentally disabled person, or intoxicated individual) **and rabies cannot be ruled out by testing of the bat.** PEP would not be warranted for other household members. Consult your local health department for questions regarding uncommon incidents.

3. **B**arring unusual circumstances, rodents and rabbits are not likely to carry rabies, and bites from these species almost never require rabies PEP. In questionable or unusual circumstances involving rodent or rabbit bites, consult your local health department.

4. **U**nprovoked exposures are rare and typically require an animal to cross neutral space and attack. *Provoked* exposures may include:

- attempting to feed an animal
- having contact with an injured animal
- entering an animal's territory
- petting or playing with an animal
- handling an animal
- attempting to break up a fight between animals
- walking, running, or riding a bicycle past an animal

The physician should attempt to get the patient to describe the scenario in order to establish the true nature or the circumstances surrounding the biting incident - DO NOT simply ask if the bite was provoked or unprovoked.

5. **R**abies PEP is a medical urgency NOT an emergency. The severity and location of a wound (severe wounds or obvious wounds near the head and neck should be given highest priority), and the expected interval between the time of the bite and receipt of rabies test results should be considered when making a decision to begin PEP while awaiting test results. Potentially exposed persons can normally afford to wait *48-72 hours* for 1) an animal to be located for quarantine or testing, or 2) animal rabies testing results. Testing is available at the MDCH laboratory 24/7 including weekends and holidays, and turnaround time for testing is normally 24-48 hours.

6. **U**nless the person previously received rabies immunoprophylaxis¹ or is immunosuppressed², PEP consists of four (4) doses of vaccine (1.0 ml each administered IM in the deltoid region) on days 0, 3, 7, and 14, and one (1) dose of human rabies immune globulin (HRIG) administered on day 0. HRIG (dosage 20 IU/kg) should be infiltrated into and around the bite wound as much as anatomically feasible, with the remainder administered IM at a site distant from vaccine administration. HRIG should not be administered in the same syringe or at the same site as vaccine.

¹Previously vaccinated patient: No HRIG, and only two (2) doses of vaccine on days 0 and 3.

²Immunosuppressed patient: HRIG and a five (5) dose series of vaccine (days 0, 3, 7, 14, 28). Serum should be tested for rabies neutralizing antibody 1-2 weeks following completion of series.

Consult your local health department if deviations from the PEP schedule occur.

7. **I**f the biting animal is captured and tests negative for rabies after PEP has begun, PEP may be discontinued.

References:

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Human Rabies Prevention - United States, 2008: Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP). MMWR 2008; 57 (No. RR-3).

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *Compendium of Animal Rabies Prevention and Control, 2008: National Association of State Public Health Veterinarians, Inc. MMWR 2008; 57 (No. RR-2).*



Prepared by:

Michigan Department of Community Health
Zoonotic and Special Projects Section
August 2009

For more information, please visit:
www.michigan.gov/rabies or www.cdc.gov/rabies

DIRECTORY OF MICHIGAN HEALTH DEPARTMENTS

In general, health care providers should seek consultation regarding communicable disease prevention and control services through their local health department.

COUNTY	HEALTH DEPT.	CO. OFFICE	AREA	PHONE	FAX	COUNTY	HEALTH DEPT.	CO. OFFICE	AREA	PHONE	FAX
Alcona	District 2	Harrisville	989	724-6757	343-1894	Lapeer	Lapeer County	Lapeer	810	245-5581	245-4525
Alger	LMAS DHD	Munising	906	387-2297	387-2224	Leelanau	Benzie-Leelanau DHD	Lake Leelanau	231	256-0200	882-2204
Allegan	Allegan County	Allegan	269	673-5411	673-4172	Lenawee	Lenawee County	Adrian	517	264-5202	264-0790
Alpena	District 4	Alpena	989	356-4507	354-0855	Livingston	Livingston County	Howell	517	546-9850	546-6995
Antrim	NW MI Com Health	Bellaire	231	533-8670	533-8450	Luce	LMAS DHD	Newberry	906	293-5107	293-5453
Arenac	Cent MI DHD	Standish	989	846-6541	846-0431	Mackinac	LMAS DHD	St. Ignace	906	643-1100x14	643-7719
Baraga	Western UP Dist	Hancock	906	524-6142	524-6144	Macomb	Macomb County	Mt. Clemens	586	469-5235	469-5885
Barry	Barry-Eaton DHD	Hastings	517	485-7110	543-7737	Manistee	District 10	Manistee	231	723-3595	723-1477
Bay	Bay County	Bay City	989	895-4009	895-4014	Marquette	Marquette County	Negaunee	906	475-9977	475-9312
Benzie	Benzie-Leelanau DHD	Benzonia	231	882-4409	882-2204	Mason	District 10	Ludington	231	845-7381	845-0438
Berrien	Berrien County	Benton Harbor	269	926-7121	926-8129	Mecosta	District 10	Big Rapids	231	592-0130	796-7864
Branch	Hranch/Hills/St Jo	Coldwater	517	279-9561	278-2923	Menominee	Delta/Men Dist	Menominee	906	863-4451	863-7142
Calhoun	Calhoun County	Battle Creek	269	969-6370	966-1489	Midland	Midland County	Midland	989	832-6380	832-6628
Cass	Van Buren-Cass DHD	Cassopolis	269	445-5280	445-5278	Missaukee	District 10	Lake City	231	839-7167	839-7908
Charlevoix	NW MI Com Health	Charlevoix	231	547-6523	547-6238	Monroe	Monroe County	Monroe	734	240-7800	240-7815
Cheboygan	District 4	Cheboygan	231	627-8850	627-9466	Montcalm	Mid-MI DHD	Stanton	989	831-5237	831-3666
Chippewa	Chippewa County	Sault Ste. Marie	906	635-1566	253-1466	Montmorency	District 4	Atlanta	989	785-4428	785-2217
Clare	Cent MI DHD	Harrison	989	539-6731	539-4449	Muskegon	Muskegon County	Muskegon	231	724-6246	724-6674
Clinton	Mid-MI DHD	St. Johns	989	224-2195	224-4300	Newaygo	District 10	White Cloud	231	689-7300	689-7382
Crawford	District 10	Grayling	989	348-7800	348-5346	Oakland	Oakland County	Pontiac	248	858-1280	858-5428
Delta	Delta-Men Dist	Escanaba	906	786-4111	786-7004	Oceana	District 10	Hart	231	873-2193	873-4248
Dickinson	Dick-Iron Dist	Iron River	906	265-9913	265-2950	Ogemaw	District 2	West Branch	989	345-5020	343-1899
Eaton	Barry-Eaton DHD	Charlotte	517	543-2430	543-2656	Ontonagon	Western UP Dist	Ontonagon	906	884-4485	884-2358
Emmet	NW MI Com Health	Petoskey	231	347-6014	347-2861	Osceola	Cent MI DHD	Reed City	231	832-5532	832-1020
Genesee	Genesee County	Flint	810	257-3612	257-3147	Oscoda	District 2	Mio	989	826-3970	343-1895
Gladwin	Cent MI DHD	Gladwin	989	426-9431	426-6952	Otsego	NW MI Com Health	Gaylord	989	732-1794	732-3285
Gogebic	Western UP Dist	Bessemer	906	667-0200	667-0020	Ottawa	Ottawa County	Holland	616	396-5266	393-5767
Gd. Traverse	Grand Traverse Co	Traverse City	231	922-4831	922-4629	Presque Isle	District 4	Rogers City	989	734-4723	734-3866
Gratiot	Mid-MI DHD	Ithaca	989	875-3681	875-3747	Roscommon	Cent MI DHD	Prudenville	989	366-9166	366-8921
Hillsdale	Branch/Hills/St Jo	Hillsdale	517	437-7395x200	437-0166	Saginaw	Saginaw County	Saginaw	989	758-3800	758-3750
Houghton	Western UP Dist	Hancock	906	482-7382	482-9410	St. Clair	St. Clair County	Port Huron	810	987-9396	985-2150
Huron	Huron County	Bad Axe	989	269-9721	269-4181	St. Joseph	Branch/Hills/St Jo	Three Rivers	269	273-2161x200	273-2452
Ingham	Ingham County	Lansing	517	887-4311	887-4310	St. Joseph	Branch/Hills/St Jo	Strugis	269	659-4013x200	651-6090
Ionia	Ionia County	Ionia	616	527-5341	527-5361	Sanilac	Sanilac County	Sandusky	810	648-4098	648-2646
Iosco	District 2	Tawas City	989	362-6183	343-1892	Schoolcraft	LMAS DHD	Manistiquie	906	341-4113	341-5230
Iron	Dick-Iron Dist	Stambaugh	906	265-9913	265-2950	Shiawassee	Shiawassee County	Corunna	989	743-2318	743-2413
Isabella	Cent MI DHD	Mt. Pleasant	989	773-5921	773-4319	Tuscola	Tuscola County	Caro	989	673-8114	673-7490
Jackson	Jackson County	Jackson	517	768-4420	788-4373	Van Buren	Van Buren-Cass DHD	Hartford	269	621-3143	621-2725
Kalamazoo	Kalamazoo County	Kalamazoo	269	373-5200	373-5363	Washtenaw	Washtenaw County	Ypsilanti	734	544-6700	544-6706
Kalkaska	District 10	Kalkaska	231	258-8669	258-2805	Wayne (out-Wayne)	Wayne County	Wayne	734	727-7006	727-7043
Kent	Kent County	Grand Rapids	616	632-7100	632-7085	Detroit	Detroit City	Detroit	313	876-4000	871-5363
Keweenaw	Western UP Dist	Hancock	906	482-7382	482-9410	Wexford	District 10	Cadillac	231	775-9942	775-5372
Lake	District 10	Baldwin	231	745-4663	745-2501	STATE OF MICHIGAN	Comm Disease Division	Lansing	517	335-8165	335-8263
STATE OF MICHIGAN	Immunization Division	Lansing	517	335-8159	335-9855	STATE OF MICHIGAN	Bureau of Laboratories	Lansing	517	335-8059	335-9631

STATE OF MICHIGAN COMMUNICABLE DISEASE AFTER HOURS CONTACT: (517) 335-9030