

August 2016

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CHELAN-DOUGLAS PUBLIC HEALTH



Current Conditions of Interest

“Always Working for a Safer and Healthier Community”

TO REPORT A NOTIFIABLE CONDITION:

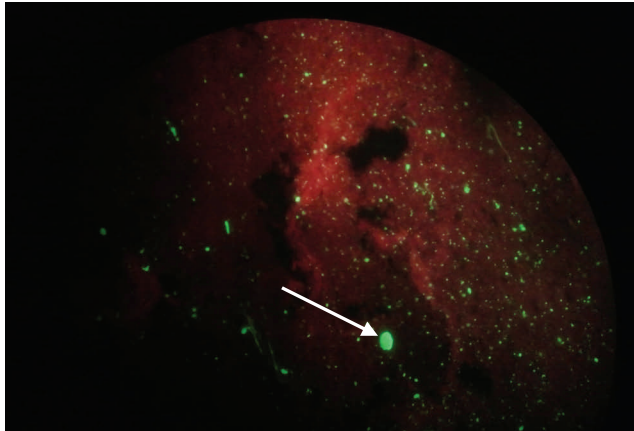
Phone (509) 886-6400

Fax (509) 886-6478

After hours call:

(509) 886-6499

Rabies Postexposure Vaccinations [◀ Link](#)



Positive rabies DFA picture (green objects)

Photo: *Misty M. Lang*, Virology – WAPHL

Recent Washington trends: In 2015, 305 bats were tested and 9 were infected with rabies. It is very rare for a person to get rabies in Washington. However, hundreds of people receive treatment for exposure to rabid or potentially rabid animals every year.

All dogs, cats, and ferrets in Washington must have up-to-date rabies vaccines. Washington State rule, [WAC 246-100-197](#)

Vaccination status	Intervention	Regimen*
Not previously vaccinated	Wound cleansing	All PEP should begin with immediate thorough cleansing of all wounds with soap and water. If available, a virucidal agent (e.g., povidine-iodine solution) should be used to irrigate the wounds.
	Human rabies immune globulin (HRIG)	Administer 20 IU/kg body weight. If anatomically feasible, the full dose should be infiltrated around and into the wound(s), and any remaining volume should be administered at an anatomical site (intramuscular [IM]) distant from vaccine administration. Also, HRIG should not be administered in the same syringe as vaccine. Because RIG might partially suppress active production of rabies virus antibody, no more than the recommended dose should be administered.
	Vaccine	Human diploid cell vaccine (HDCV) or purified chick embryo cell vaccine (PCECV) 1.0 mL, IM (deltoid area [†]), 1 each on days 0, [§] 3, 7 and 14. [¶]
Previously vaccinated**	Wound cleansing	All PEP should begin with immediate thorough cleansing of all wounds with soap and water. If available, a virucidal agent such as povidine-iodine solution should be used to irrigate the wounds.
	HRIG	HRIG should not be administered.
	Vaccine	HDCV or PCECV 1.0 mL, IM (deltoid area [†]), 1 each on days 0 [§] and 3.

* These regimens are applicable for persons in all age groups, including children.

[†] The deltoid area is the only acceptable site of vaccination for adults and older children. For younger children, the outer aspect of the thigh may be used. Vaccine should never be administered in the gluteal area.

[§] Day 0 is the day dose 1 of vaccine is administered.

[¶] For persons with immunosuppression, rabies PEP should be administered using all 5 doses of vaccine on days 0, 3, 7, 14, and 28.

** Any person with a history of pre-exposure vaccination with HDCV, PCECV, or rabies vaccine adsorbed (RVA); prior PEP with HDCV, PCECV or RVA; or previous vaccination with any other type of rabies vaccine and a documented history of antibody response to the prior vaccination.



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CHELAN-DOUGLAS PUBLIC HEALTH

August 2016 **Current Conditions of Interest**



Chelan-Douglas Health District

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PHONE: (509) 886-6400 • FAX: (509) 886-6478

Always working for a safer and healthier community

Bat Exposure

Anyone who encounters a bat should be evaluated by a medical professional for risk of rabies.



Encounters with a bat include:

- Direct contact with a bat = bat bite or bat saliva in your eyes, nose, mouth or fresh wound.
- Finding a bat in the same room of a person who might be unaware that a bite or direct contact had occurred.
 - * a deeply sleeping person awakens to find a bat in the room
 - * or an adult witnesses a bat in the room with a previously unattended child, mentally disabled person, or intoxicated person

If you discover a bat in your home or cabin:

- **DO NOT TOUCH THE BAT**
- Call Animal Control if available in your area, (509) 862-9577
- Call the Chelan-Douglas Health District to determine if the bat needs to be tested for rabies
 - Monday-Thursday, (509) 886-6400.
 - After hours and weekends, (509) 886-6499.
- If the bat does not need to be tested follow "How can I safely capture a bat in my home". See instructions to the right.

If you are bitten by a bat:

- Wash the wound with soap and water
- Get medical attention within 24 hours
- The medical provider should immediately report the bat bite to the Chelan-Douglas Health District

To avoid possible exposure to rabies:

- Do not touch live or dead bats
- Teach children not to touch live or dead wild animals
- Make sure your home's open windows have screens
- Vaccinate pet dogs, cats, and ferrets against rabies as required by Washington State law (WAC 246-100-197)

Related Links:

[Rabies Information](#)

[\(Centers for Disease Control and Prevention\) >](#)

[Rabies Activity in Washington State \(Washington State Department of Health\) >](#)

How can I safely capture a bat in my home?

If a bat is present in your home and you cannot rule out the possibility of exposure, leave the bat alone and contact an animal-control or public health agency for assistance. If professional help is unavailable, use precautions to capture the bat safely, as described below.

What you will need:

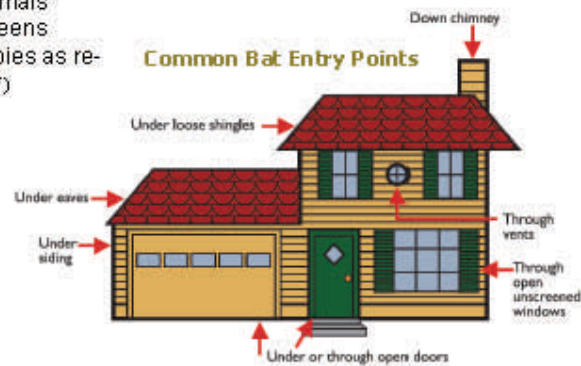
- leather work gloves (put them on)
- small box or coffee can
- piece of cardboard
- tape

When the bat lands, approach it slowly, while wearing the gloves, and place the box or coffee can over it. Slide the cardboard under the container to trap the bat inside. Tape the cardboard to the container securely, and punch small holes in the cardboard, allowing the bat to breathe. Contact your health department or animal-control authority to make arrangements for rabies testing.

If you see a bat in your home and you are sure no human or pet exposure has occurred, confine the bat to a room by closing all doors and windows leading out of the room except those to the outside. The bat will probably leave soon. If not, it can be caught, as described, and released outdoors away from people and pets.



Common Bat Entry Points



[Link to Spanish version of this poster](#)

[Link to English version of this poster](#)

