

SO YOU MAY HAVE HAD **CONTACT** WITH A POTENTIALLY **RABID ANIMAL**



What to do next.

Avoid contact with wild animals or unknown pets, especially if they are acting strangely. Walk away and never approach. Call animal control if needed.

STEP 1 Attempt to contain the animal.

If possible, without harming yourself, try to isolate the animal where it cannot escape. If this is not possible, please call an animal removal company and/or animal control to do so.



STEP 2 Seek medical care

for any bites, scratches, or other exposures.



STEP 3 Contact NKY Health

at (859) 341-4151 for advice on next steps. If it was a wild animal (mammal), the animal will likely need to be properly euthanized by a licensed veterinarian, animal control officer, and/or licensed animal removal company. The animal will then be prepped and sent to the state lab for testing.



STEP 4 Our office generally receives

rabies test results within 2-3 days. If the animal tests negative for rabies, the victim has no concern of rabies transmission. If the animal tests positive, the victim will need to follow post-exposure prophylaxis (rabies shots).



STEP 5 NKY Health partners with St. Elizabeth Medical Center

on obtaining this vaccine series. The first round of the four-part series is administered in the Emergency Room. Additional vaccinations will be scheduled through the St. Elizabeth Maternal Fetal Center.

Please note: It is vital that the victim receives the entire rabies vaccination series for effectiveness. Rabies is a preventable viral disease. If it is not treated, it is fatal to humans.



All or potential exposures to humans are required to be reported to the Health Department at (859) 341-4151. Rabies is a fatal disease caused by a virus. It is transmitted to humans via contact with infected animals, mainly through a bite. If untreated, rabies is fatal to humans.