# Rabies Rapid Response Toolkit

**1<sup>st</sup> edition** 2021

# At a glance

#### TRIGGERS

A trigger is a rabies-related scenario that needs to be responded to. Directly view the recommended response activities by clicking on a specific trigger.



The detailed tasks are organized by responsible person. Easily view the necessary tasks by clicking on the specific role.

# <mark>Using t</mark>he Rapid Response Toolkit

#### What is the Rapid Response Toolkit?

The Rapid Response Toolkit for Rabies is a compilation of local and international guidelines and procedures related to an effective rabies response. These guidelines address the responsibilities of all personnel involved in a rabies response, spanning multiple sectors – helping the stakeholders to effectively undertake their daily activities in the scope of rabies control. To do this, these guidelines are presented in a series of steps that highlight the roles and responsibilities of each stakeholder involved in rabies prevention and control.

#### What are the different triggers?

Different scenarios, or triggers, represent the start of every potential scenario that may be encountered when working on a rabies response. These triggers are:

- a) suspect animal case,
- b) animal found dead,
- c) animal carcass or sample received in the laboratory,
- d) human bitten by an animal, and
- e) suspect human case.

These triggers are discussed in more detail in the next section.

#### **IMPORTANT:**

Set the page display to **Two-Page View** in your **PDF reader** when viewing this document on your computer.

#### How do I use the manual?

The steps for each trigger are presented in the different chapters of the toolkit, which means users can go to the relevant section of the toolkit based on the current scenario (trigger) they have encountered. Each trigger has a flow diagram depicting the main steps involved in the response to that specific trigger. Under each step are the names of different stakeholders responsible for specific tasks under that step. These specific tasks are listed in the pages following the flow diagram. The tasks are grouped per stakeholder so that each stakeholder will only have to refer to their particular sections. The tasks for each stakeholder are grouped as shown in the diagram and are arranged in a checklist format.

The stakeholders, or the intended users of the manual, are listed on the next page. Note that this list may be adjusted depending on your Local Government Unit's (LGUs) policy or system. The stakeholders are sorted by sector, and are assigned color codes and abbreviations for easy reference throughout the toolkit.

Colored text boxes are assigned different colors depending on the type of information in the box.

Important reminders	Reference to other documents	Other information

Legislations and policies are also linked in the toolkit and can be viewed by clicking on the

#### **OFFICE**

#### **PERSONS INVOLVED**

#### ABBREVIATION AND COLOR CODE

#### Barangay

Barangay hall	BHW, BAHA/BALW/etc, barangay captain, sanitation officer, other officials	Bgy

#### Human health

ABTC/ABC	ABTC/ABC staff	ABTC/ABC
CHD	Regional human rabies coordinators	Reg human
CHD	Regional Epidemiology and Surveillance Units (PIDSR staff)	RESU
Hospital	Hospital staff	Hospital
Hospital	Hospital Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit	HESU
Laboratory	Laboratory staff	Lab
РНО/СНО/МНО	Provincial/City/Municipal human rabies coordinators	Loc human
РНО/СНО/МНО	Provincial/City/Municipal Epidemiology and Surveillance Units	Loc ESU
EB	EB staff	EB
DPCB	DPCB staff	DPCB

#### Animal health

Private vet	Private vet	Priv vet
Animal rescue	Animal rescue/shelters or animal welfare organizations	Rescue
PVO/CVO/MAO	Provincial/City veterinarians and Municipal agriculturists	Loc animal
DARFO	Regional animal rabies coordinators	Reg animal
BAI	BAI staff	BAI
Laboratory	Lab staff	Lab



TOPIC	PERSONS INVOLVED	PAGE
At a glance		ii
Acronyms		ii
Introduction		iii
Acknowledgments		iii
Rabies Rapid Response Rationale & Definition	ons	iv
Suspect animal case	Bgy         Rescue         Lab         Loc human         Reg human           Priv vet         Loc animal         ABTC/ABC         Loc ESU         RESU           Reg animal	1
Animal found dead	Bgy         Rescue         Lab         Loc human         Reg human           Priv vet         Loc animal         ABTC/ABC         Loc ESU         RESU	15
Animal carcass received in the laboratory	Lab Loc animal Loc animal	25
Human bitten by an animal	Bgy     RESU     Loc human       Loc animal     ABTC/ABC	29
Suspect human case	HospitalLoc ESURESUEBReg animalHESULabReg humanDPCBLoc humanABTC/ABCBgyLoc animal	35

#### LIST OF REFERENCES

Guidelines for Managing Rabies Exposures Secondary to Bites by Vaccinated Dogs and Cats (DOH AO No. 2011-0002 and DA AO 01-2011)

Implementing Rules and Regulations Implementing RA 9482

Management Protocol for Rabies (Research Institute for Tropical Medicine, Feb. 2011)

Manual of Procedures (National Rabies Prevention and Control Program, 2019)

Revised Guidelines on the Management of Rabies Exposures (DOH AO No. 2018-0013)

OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code (World Organisation for Animal Health, 2021)

OIE Terrestrial Manual (World Organisation for Animal Health, 2018)

WHO Expert Consultation on Rabies (World Health Organization, 2018)

www.caninerabiesblueprint.org

Directory\_DA Regional Rabies Coordinators (2021)

Directory\_PCMVLP members (2019)

ii

# Acronyms

ABC	Animal Bite Center	HESU	Hospital Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit
ABTC	Animal Bite Treatment Center	LGU	Local Government Unit
AHWD	Animal Health and Welfare Division	MAO	Municipal Agriculture Office
BAHW	Barangay Animal Health Worker	МНО	Municipal Health Office
BAI	Bureau of Animal Industry	NaRIS	National Rabies Information System
BHW	Barangay Health Worker	PEP	Post Exposure Prophylaxis
BRC	Barangay Rabies Coordinator	PESU	Provincial Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit
CESU	City Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit	РНО	Provincial Health Office
СНО	City Health Office	PIDSR	Philippine Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response
CVO	City Veterinary Office	PVO	Provincial Veterinary Office
DA	Department of Agriculture	RADSS	Rabies Data Share System
DOH	Department of Health		
DPCB	Disease Prevention and Control	RESU	Regional Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit
FB	Bureau Enidemiology Bureau	RITM	Research Institute for Tropica Medicine
20		RHU	Rural Health Unit
EDCS	Epidemic-prone Disease Case Surveillance	V/ND	vaccinate neutor release
ESR	Event-based Surveillance and Response	VINK	vaccinate, neuter, release
ESU	Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit		

# **Introduction**

Rabies is a zoonotic disease that remains endemic in the Philippines and continues to be a public health concern. It is entirely preventable through adequate vaccination of at-risk dog populations and the timely prophylactic treatment of exposed people.

Rabies is a notifiable disease that requires timely responses and appropriate action to save lives. Furthermore, rabies interventions are most effective when the One Health approach is implemented, wherein coordination, collaboration and sharing of life-saving information between the animal health and human health sectors (among others) is crucial.

The Rapid Response Toolkit for Rabies is based on the One Health approach and provides a clear, user-friendly guide that assists responders to effectively and efficiently undertake their duties in the event of rabies cases and related incidents. Based on identified triggers and scenarios, this toolkit provides a step-by-step guide for the proper course of actions towards efficient and effective rabies intervention initiatives, while also highlighting the importance of proper coordination and reporting to all relevant stakeholders.

The toolkit is mostly based from the NRPCP MOP and other international guidelines. Results from key informant interview from different stakeholders were also taken into consideration in developing the toolkit. All of these were collated and integrated for a more simple, go-to manual to assist rabies personnel in the field.

# **Acknow**ledgments

This document was developed by the Global Alliance for Rabies Control and Oita University, and was supported by World Health Organization Country Office for the Philippines.

The process in developing the toolkit was consultative and collaborative. Using the One Health approach, inputs from both the animal health and human health sectors from both the government and private actors were sought as well from the different levels of government.

We are grateful for the expert inputs provided by representatives from the National Rabies Prevention and Control Program; Department of Agriculture (Bureau of Animal Industry; Regional Field Offices III, IV-A, VII, and Caraga); Department of Health (Disease Prevention and Control Bureau, Epidemiology Bureau, Knowledge Management and Information Technology Service, Research Institute for Tropical Medicine and San Lazaro Hospital, Center for Health Development Regions III, IV-A, VII, Caraga); and private veterinary practitioners and animal welfare organizations.

We would like to extend our deep appreciation from the rabies program field implementers especially, the local governments of Bulacan, Rizal, Cebu and Agusan Del Norte as well as cities and municipalities included in the consultation process.

Special thanks also to the City of Antipolo for the field testing of the toolkit.

# **Rabies** Rapid Response Rationale and Definitions

The response activities outlined in this document are grouped by trigger - a) suspect animal case, b) animal found dead, c) animal carcass or sample received in the laboratory, d) human bitten by an animal, and e) suspect human case.

#### Suspect animal case

Rabies is a notifiable disease in both human health and animal health sectors. Rapid investigation and response to animal rabies is essential for the management of potential exposures and limiting continued disease transmission.

In the Philippines, majority of the rabies cases in humans are from rabid dogs and cats. Other mammals such as monkeys and bats can also transmit the rabies virus.

A suspect animal case is defined as an animal involved in a biting incident or an animal that presents with any one of the following signs:

- Sudden behavioral change (e.g. sudden anorexia, signs of apprehension or nervousness, irritability, hypersensitivity)
- Hydrophobia
- Muscle paralysis
- Nervous signs

#### Animal found dead

Active surveillance strengthens surveillance, resulting in a more accurate depiction of the occurrence of rabies. However, active surveillance may be biased depending on the sampling technique. Testing of healthy animals dilutes the actual proportion of cases (e.g., percentage positivity), suggesting a lower overall risk of rabies. Killing and testing healthy animals has no impact on rabies surveillance and is also economically and ethically impractical. In endemic areas, active surveillance of animals including roadkill and those that died of unknown causes may provide a higher rate of detection, and when implemented and analyzed together with passive rabies surveillance, is likely to provide a more comprehensive understanding of the local rabies epidemiology.

Animals that need to be investigated under this trigger include those that have died as a result of vehicular accidents or unknown causes (sudden and/or unexplained death).

This trigger can increase the sensitivity of surveillance and is recommended for endemic areas with established animal rabies surveillance. This trigger is also recommended for rabies-free areas, areas with sporadic cases, and is especially important for those areas nearing dog rabies freedom.

#### Animal carcass or sample received in the laboratory

Ideally, the local government veterinarian/agriculturist should investigate and submit for testing all suspect animal rabies cases within their jurisdiction. In some areas, however, owned animals that are suspected of having rabies are submitted directly to the animal diagnostic laboratory, bypassing the local government veterinarian/ agriculturist. This happens, not because of the inactivity of the veterinary/agriculture office, but merely because of practicality given the animal owner's shorter travel distance to the laboratory. This trigger is included to capture these cases that may have otherwise been missed in the Suspect Animal Case trigger.

#### Human bitten by an animal

This trigger involves responding to persons seen in the community or in animal bite treatment facilities who were bitten or scratched by dogs or cats, and other mammals such as bats and monkeys. This trigger relies on the principles of Integrated bite case management (IBCM). IBCM is a One Health approach to rabies surveillance where both human and animal health sectors work together to assess the risk of rabies in humans bitten by animals and the biting animals. IBCM involves determining the risk of the biting animal and, in some cases observing it for clinical signs in quarantine, while also working to identify other potentially exposed animals and people. IBCM helps to ensure the appropriate management and follow-up of rabies cases, and will not only improve the quality of surveillance, but also prevent human deaths from rabies. These outcomes prompt the veterinary/agriculture office to the presence of a suspect, probable, or confirmed animal rabies case that may have been missed in the Suspect Animal Case trigger.

#### Human rabies case

Human rabies is classified as an immediately notifiable disease and must be reported within 24 hours. A suspect human case is defined as a person presenting with an acute neurological syndrome (encephalitis) dominated by forms of hyperactivity (furious rabies) or paralytic syndromes (dumb rabies) that progresses towards coma and death, usually by respiratory failure, within 7 to 10 days after the first symptom, if no intensive care is instituted.

# Suspect animal case







#### Barangay staff - BHW, BAHA/BALW/etc, barangay captain, other officials



Respond to alerts about rabies suspect animals. These may be received from community members or from other barangay officials. Collect information on the status of the animal, location, and contact information of witnesses for easy coordination with the veterinary/agriculture office.



#### IMPORTANT REMINDER

A suspect animal is an animal that:

- . shows any of the following signs: sudden behavioral change, hydrophobia, muscle
- paralysis, nervous signs is involved in a biting incident



Notify PVO/CVO/MAO immediately about the rabies suspect animal. Provide all available information including the status of the animal and contact information of the person who reported and/or witnesses.

Warn the community members especially if the animal was reported to be roaming around the area.



Prepare all necessary equipment even before the PVO/CVO/MAO coordinates with you. Accompany the animal health team to the location of the suspect animal and assist in the investigation.





) If the suspect animal is owned and the owner wants it surrendered, assist the animal health team in capturing the animal.

- OR -

If the animal is alive and free-roaming, or showing signs of rabies, assist the animal health team in capturing the animal.

- OR -

If the animal is dead or was buried recently, assist the animal health team in retrieving the carcass. - OR -

If the animal is confined in the barangay isolation area for observation, ensure that the animal is

If the animal cannot be located or the carcass is badly decomposed or putrid, assist the animal health team in identifying witnesses and possible bite victims.

0



Animal quarantine

- OR -

If the animal is observed at home, follow-up with the owner every day for any changes in the animal.

provided with food and water every day. Observe the

animal for any signs that may develop.



Refer to Ref 2. Signs of animal rabies (Canine Rabies Blueprint)



#### Barangay staff - BHW, BAHA/BALW/etc, barangay captain, other officials



If the laboratory results of the animal is positive or inconclusive, assist the animal health team in identifying other animals that came into contact with the confirmed animal.



Conduct community education in the community and counsel affected families in coordination with the PVO/CVO/MAO and PHO/CHO/MHO.

Conduct of community education

#### Private veterinarian



Always consider rabies when ruling out diseases in animals seen in the clinic. Fill out the BAI Case Investigation form to aid the PVO/CVO/MAO in their investigation.



Refer to Ref 3. Signs of animal rabies (NRPCP)



Animal quarantine If the animal is involved in a biting incident but is not showing signs of rabies, instruct the owner to confine the animal at home away from other animals and humans. Explain the signs to look out for. Emphasize that extreme caution must be used at all times when



feeding and providing water. Instruct the owner to immediately notify you and the PVO/CVO/MAO if the animal showed signs of rabies during observation.



If the animal is showing signs of rabies, notify PVO/CVO/MAO immediately. Provide all available information including the status of the animal and contact information of the owner.



#### **IMPORTANT REMINDER**

RA 9482 IRR Rule 6A(4)2 states that "All owners/operators of animal facilities shall be required by the DA to report incidents of animal rabies in their facilities ".



#### Animal rescue



Observe rescued animals for possible signs of rabies. Ensure that the animal is confined separate from the other animals. Use extreme caution when providing food and water. Collect information on when and where the animal was rescued. If possible, ask if there are bite victims in the area. These information will help the PVO/CVO/MAO in their animal health investigation.



Notify PVO/CVO/MAO immediately about the rabies suspect animal. Provide all available information including the status of the animal and when and where it was rescued, and possible bite victims. IMPORTANT REMINDER

Make sure that animals for adoption are vaccinated against rabies and other diseases.

#### Local animal health - PVO/CVO/MAO



Coordinate with the barangay staff upon receipt of the suspect animal report, and schedule the date and time of investigation.

REFER TO

Form 2. BAI Case Investigation Form Ref 1. Catching stray dogs (NRPCP)



Prepare all necessary forms and equipment and proceed to the site.



Coordinate with human health coordinator counterpart and/or interview witnesses and bite victims.

Refer the bite victims to nearest ABTC.

REFER TO Ref 4. List of accredited ABP Providers (PhilHealth)



Fill out the BAI Case Investigation Form.

If the animal is showing signs of rabies, capture with extreme caution and euthanize humanely . Note that only licensed veterinarians are allowed to perform euthanasia. - OR -

If the animal is dead or was buried recently, collect the carcass.

- OR -







If the suspect animal is owned and the owner wants it surrendered, capture the animal and bring to the pound or isolation area.

- OR -

If the owner prefers to observe the animal at home, ensure that there is an isolation area and provide instructions on the signs to look out for. Make sure that the owner has your contact details in the event the animal begins to show signs.

- OR -

If the suspect animal is free-roaming, capture the animal and bring to the pound or isolation area.

- OR -

If the animal cannot be located or the carcass is badly decomposed or putrid, proceed to Case Classification.



quarantine

Isolate and observe animal for 14 days in the pound or designated isolation area.

If the animal is isolated at home, follow-up with the owner regularly for any changes in the animal.



If the animal shows signs of rabies within 14 days, euthanize humanely . Note that only licensed veterinarians are allowed to perform euthanasia.

- OR -

If the animal is healthy after 14 days, return the animal to the owner. If the animal is unowned, have the animal adopted, vaccinated-neutered-released, or euthanized depending on your LGU's ordinances. Note that only licensed veterinarians are allowed to perform euthanasia.



Back to diagram

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Refer to Ref 5. Euthanasia (NRPCP) and Ref 6. Euthanasia (OIE)





0

Refer to Ref 2. Signs of animal rabies (Rabies Blueprint)









Transport the suspect animal's carcass to a facility where it is safe to remove the head. Note that only trained personnel should remove the head.

Head collection

Dispose of the carcass by burial or cremation.



Transport the head to the nearest rabies diagnostic laboratory.



#### IMPORTANT REMINDER

Dispose the carcass by burying or cremation. Disinfect the working area with commercially available 10% household bleach or 3% Lysol. Consumption of the carcass's meat is prohibited.

#### Ref 7. List of national and regional animal rabies diagnostic laboratories

#### RADDL CAR

BPI Compound, Guisad, Baguio City integratedlaboratories.dacar@gmail.com raddl\_car@yahoo.com (074) 445-4973

#### RADDL 1

DA RFO-I, Aguila Road, Sevilla Norte, City of San Fernando, La Union ilocos@da.gov.ph (072) 242-1045 to 46 / 888-0341

#### RADDL 2

CVIAL, RGC, Enrile Blvd., Carig Sur, Tuguegarao City ild.fro2@da.gov.ph (078) 377-0256

#### RADDL 3

Capitol Cmpd, Sto Nino, City of San Fernando, Pampanga integlab3financialmonitoring@gmail.com region3ild@gmail.com (045) 961-1452

#### RADDL 4a

0345 Tanco Drive, Marawoy, Lipa City, Batangas rafis@calabarzon.da.gov.ph dacalabarzon.info@gmail.com +63 (2) 8920-0116 / 273-2474 loc. 4480

#### RADDL 4b

Barcenaga, Naujan, Oriental Mindoro r.nanette@ymail.com 8927-4350 (02) 8528-2240 loc. 1610 **RADDL 5** Cabangan, Camalig, Albay (054) 477-0068 da5philahis@yahoo.com

#### RADDL 6

WESTVIARC, Buntatala, Jaro, Iloilo City (033) 336-9737

#### RADDL 7

Old Department of Agriculture Cmpd, M. Velez St, Cebu City MES Compound, Estancia St., Maguikay, Mandaue City Cebu (032) 268-5187/ 238-2163

#### RADDL 8

Magsaysay Ave, Tacloban City ild\_rfo8@yahoo.com (053) 522-2182

#### RADDL Caraga

Taguibo, Butuan City

RADDL 9 Gen. Vicente Alvarez St., Zamboanga City rfu9da@yahoo.com (062) 214-4677 RADDL 10

A. Luna St, Cagayan de Oro City agri10cdo@gmail.com (088) 856-6871 / 2753

RADDL 11

F. Bangoy St., Agdao, Davao City darfoxi.ored@gmail.com aizelrenmar@yahoo.com.ph (082) 226-3625 loc. 1100

#### RADDL 12

Department of Agriculture RFO XII Regional Center, Barangay Carpenter Hill, Koronadal City jenefferbulawan@yahoo.com ildrfo12@gmail.com (083) 228-3413 / (0915)717-3036 / IP No. 1224

#### ADDRL

Bureau of Animal Industry Cmpd, Visayas Ave, Diliman, Quezon City addrl@bai.gov.ph (02) 8528-2240 loc. 1610

#### Research Institute for Tropical Medicine Filinvest Corporate City Cmpd, Alabang, Muntinlupa City 02) 8807-2631 to 32 loc. 233

#### **REFER TO**

Ref 8. Animal head collection (RITM) Ref 9. Handling and transport of specimens (NRPCP) Form 3. RADDL Specimen Submission Form Form 4. RITM Laboratory Diagnosis Form





Immediately notify the PHO/CHO/MHO and animal owner once the laboratory results of the animal are submitted by the diagnostic laboratory.



If the result is positive or inconclusive, inform your human health counterpart and all lower level offices.



Immediately coordinate with the barangay to schedule another investigation to identify other exposed animals.



Back to diagram

Identify other animals that came into contact with the animal with positive/inconclusive laboratory result.



If the animal bitten by a confirmed rabid animal is unowned and unvaccinated or the vaccination status is unknown, capture and euthanize humanely. Note that only veterinarians should perform euthanasia.

- OR -

If the exposed animal has been vaccinated previously (and its vaccination certificate is available) and can be identified with certainty (e.g. tattoo), revaccinate immediately and confine for at least 90 days. Post-exposure vaccination of uncertain effectiveness should be discouraged.

- OR -

If the animal is unvaccinated or not updated, but the owner does not wish to have it euthanized, revaccinate within 96 hours from exposure and place the animal under strict home quarantine for 6 months. 2

0

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Refer to Leg 1. IRR of RA9482 Rule 5(e) Go to <u>https://www.cdc.gov/rabies/specific\_groups/veterinarians/</u> <u>potential\_exposure.html</u>

If the animal shows no signs of rabies after the observation period, revaccinate and instruct owner to release from isolation.

- OR -

If the animal shows rabies signs within the observation period, euthanize humanely. Note that only veterinarians should perform euthanasia.







If the suspect animal could not be located during investigation, or the carcass was badly decomposed or putrid such that it cannot be tested in the laboratory, classify the animal as Suspect or Probable Rabies. - OR -

If the suspect animal is healthy after 14 days, classify it as Not Rabies.

- OR -

If the brain of the animal has been tested in the laboratory, classify it as Not Rabies, Probable, or Confirmed Rabies depending on the laboratory result.

If the animal that was exposed to the suspect animal is alive after the 90-day or 6-month observation period (depending on its vaccination history), classify as Not Rabies.



Ref 10. Classification of animal rabies cases (NRPCP)



If the classification is Suspect, Probable, or Confirmed Rabies, report immediately to the PVO, regional rabies coordinator, and BAI.

information system

If the classification is Not Rabies, include in the monthly report of all rabies cases investigated to the PVO, regional rabies coordinator, and BAI.



If the animal's brain has been tested in the laboratory and the result was positive or inconclusive,

conduct a ring vaccination campaign within a 3 kilometer radius from where the suspect animal was captured. Include animals that were not vaccinated or vaccinated but not up-to-date.



- OR -

- OR -

If the suspect animal could not be located during investigation, or the carcass was badly decomposed or putrid such that it cannot be tested in the laboratory, assess the local rabies situation. If there is an ongoing rabies transmission within the past 6 months, increase your surveillance activities, check the surveillance data, and conduct a risk assessment. If your area is at high risk, conduct a ring vaccination campaign within a 3 kilometer radius from where the suspect animal was last seen.



Report the accomplished ring vaccination campaign to the next higher level animal rabies coordinator (i.e. PVO and regional rabies coordinator).





If the animal has been tested in the laboratory and the result was positive or inconclusive, conduct a community education campaign in the community together with the PHO/CHO/MHO and barangay officials.

## Laboratory staff



Collect brain specimen from the animal's head and perform the recommended laboratory tests.





Release the official results to the PVO, CVO/MAO, sender, and BAI immediately.

If the result is positive or inconclusive, immediately notify the sender, CVO/MAO, PVO, regional animal rabies coordinator, and BAI.



Report the results to information system.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

Search Laboratory Techniques for Rabies Diagnosis in www.rabiessurveillanceblueprint.org

# Local human health / Local ESU - PHO/CHO/MHO



The PVO/CVO/MAO will have coordinated with you regarding a reported suspect animal. Schedule a date for investigation and identification of bite victims. Coordinate the field investigation with the PVO/CVO/MAO. Identify and interview all bite victims.



Refer the bite victims to nearest ABTC/ABC.





## Local human health / Local ESU - PHO/CHO/MHO



Expect, or follow-up, the result of the suspect animal from the PVO/CVO/MAO. Inform the ABTC/ABC the bite victims are receiving their PEP from immediately.

If the result is positive or inconclusive, inform the PESU/CESU/MESU immediately. Ensure that all bite victims are identified and given PEP.



Conduct of community

education

If the animal has been tested in the laboratory and the result was positive or inconclusive, conduct a community education campaign to counsel and educate the affected families and communities together with the PVO/CVO/MAO and barangay officials.

## **ABTC/ABC** staff



Interview the persons referred by the PHO/CHO/MHO or PVO/CVO/MAO. Conduct risk assessment.



Administer PEP as recommended in the DOH guidelines. Ensure that the bite patients completes their vaccine doses. Patients may be reminded through SMS or followed-up by the BHWs.





laboratory. Once the results are available, the results will be shared with you by the PHO/CHO/MHO.

If the result is positive or is unfit for testing, ensure that the victim completes the vaccine regimen.

If the result is negative, the vaccination may be discontinued. An alternative is to complete the regimen to serve as Pre-exposure Prophylaxis.



Report the patient details through NaRIS.

Back to diagram

# **Regional animal rabies coordinator**



If the animal has been tested in the laboratory and the result was positive or inconclusive, the laboratory staff will immediately notify you of the result. Coordinate with the PVO/CVO/MAO immediately and plan for the emergency response. Provide vaccines, manpower, and/or supplies as necessary to support the ring vaccination campaign. Report the accomplished vaccination campaign to BAI.



Inform the regional human health coordinator and RESU, and ensure that the PVO and CVO/MAO have also received the result.

#### **Regional human rabies coordinator / RESU**



If the animal has been tested in the laboratory and the result was positive or inconclusive, the regional animal rabies coordinator will immediately notify you of the result. Inform your coordinator/ESU counterpart of the result and ensure that the PHO and CHO/MHO have also received the result.

Coordinate with the PHO/CHO/MHO and ensure that investigations have been done, and all bite victims have been identified and given PEP.



# Animal found dead







#### BHW, BAHA/BALW/etc, barangay captain, Barangay staff sanitation officer, other officials Respond to alerts about unexplained animal deaths including animals found dead because of vehicular accidents (i.e. mammals including dogs, cats, etc.). These may be received from community members, Suspect animal detected other barangay officials, or sanitation officers. Collect the carcass or remove from the road away from vehicles. 1 **IMPORTANT REMINDER** Animals (especially carnivores and bats) found dead are recognized as an important source of information for rabies surveillance and should be part of the clinical surveillance. (OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code 2021) Notify PVO/CVO/MAO immediately about the dead animal. Provide all available information including the type of animal and the location of the carcass. Alerting stakeholders Assist in the identification of other animals that came into contact with the animal that tested positive in the laboratory. Identification of other exposed animals Assist the PVO/CVO/MAO and PHO/CHO/MHO in the conduct of a community education campaign to counsel and educate the affected families and communities. Conduct of community education

# Private veterinarian



Rabies should always be considered when ruling out diseases in animals seen in the clinic. This is also true for animals that died of unexplained causes. Report all dogs and cats that died of unexplained causes to the PVO/CVO/MAO. Fill out the BAI Case Investigation form to aid the PVO/CVO/MAO in their investigation.



Secure the body of the animal, and notify the PVO/CVO/MAO immediately. Provide all available information and submit the accomplished BAI Case Investigation Form.





#### Animal rescue



Report all animals that died of unexplained causes to the PVO/CVO/MAO. This includes animals that die in the shelter and animals that are found dead during rescue operations. Fill out the BAI Case Investigation form to aid the PVO/CVO/MAO in their investigation.



Secure the body of the animal, and notify the PVO/CVO/MAO immediately. Provide all available information and submit the accomplished BAI Case Investigation Form.



- OR -

Transport the body to the nearest rabies diagnostic laboratory. Provide the laboratory staff important details about the animal such as where it was found, animals and persons that may have been exposed to the said animal, and your contact details. These information will help the PVO/CVO/MAO in their investigation if the laboratory result of the animal is positive.

# Local animal health - PVO/CVO/MAO



Coordinate with the person who reported the found dead animal, and schedule the date and time of investigation.

Prepare all necessary forms and equipment and proceed to the site.

**REFER TO** Form 2. BAI Case Investigation Form



Head collection

Transport the animal's carcass to a facility where it is safe to remove the head. Note that only trained personnel should remove the head.

Dispose of the carcass by burial or cremation.



Transport the head to the nearest rabies diagnostic



**REFER TO** 

Ref 8. Animal head collection (RITM) Ref 9. Handling and transport of specimens (NRPCP) Form 3. RADDL Specimen Submission Form Form 4. RITM Laboratory Diagnosis Form



Back to diagram

#### **IMPORTANT REMINDER**

Dispose the carcass by burying or cremation. Disinfect the working area with commercially available 10% household bleach or 3% Lysol. Consumption of the specimen's meat is prohibited.



Refer to Page 8 for the list of animal rabies diagnostic laboratories



If the result is positive, inform your human health counterpart and all lower level offices.

Immediately coordinate with the barangay to schedule another investigation to identify other exposed animals.



Identify other animals that came into contact with the animal with positive laboratory result.



If the animal bitten by a confirmed rabid animal is unowned and unvaccinated or the vaccination status is unknown, capture and euthanize humanely. Note that only veterinarians should perform euthanasia.

- OR -

If the exposed animal has been vaccinated previously (and its vaccination certificate is available) and can be identified with certainty (e.g. tattoo), revaccinate immediately and confine for at least 90 days. Post-exposure vaccination of uncertain effectiveness should be discouraged.

- OR -

- OR -

should perform euthanasia.

If the animal is unvaccinated or not updated, but the owner does not wish to have it euthanized, revaccinate within 96 hours from exposure and place the animal under strict home quarantine for 6 months.

#### F

0

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Refer to Leg 1. IRR of RA9482 Rule 5(e)

Go to https://www.cdc.gov/rabies/specific\_groups/veterinarians/ potential\_exposure.html

If the animal shows no signs of rabies after the observation period, revaccinate and instruct owner to release from isolation.

If the animal shows rabies signs within the observation period, euthanize humanely. Note that only veterinarians



Case classification





#### **IMPORTANT REMINDER**

Euthanasia shall be done rapidly and humanely and must occur with the least fear, anxiety, pain and distress to the animal. Euthanasia shall only be performed by a duly licensed veterinarian (DA AO No.13 s2010)

. Back to diagram

If the animal that was exposed to the suspect animal is

alive after the 90-day or 6-month observation period (depending on its vaccination history), classify as Not



If the brain of the animal has been tested in the laboratory, classify it as Not Rabies or Confirmed Rabies depending on the laboratory result.



If the classification is Confirmed Rabies, report immediately to the PVO, regional rabies coordinator, and BAI.

- OR -

Rabies.

If the classification is Not Rabies, include in the monthly report of all rabies cases investigated to the PVO, regional rabies coordinator, and BAI.



If the animal rested positive in the laboratory, conduct a ring vaccination campaign within a 3 kilometer

radius from where the animal carcass was collected.

- OR -

If the carcass was badly decomposed or putrid such that it cannot be tested in the laboratory, assess the

local rabies situation. If there is an ongoing rabies transmission, increase your surveillance activities, check the surveillance data, and conduct a risk assessment. If your area is at high risk, conduct a ring vaccination campaign within a 3 kilometer radius from where the animal carcass was collected.



Report the accomplished ring vaccination campaign to the next higher level animal rabies coordinator (i.e. PVO and regional rabies coordinator).



If the animal tested positive in the laboratory, coordinate with human health coordinator counterpart and/or Interview witnesses and bite victims.

Refer the bite victims to nearest ABTC/ABC.



**REFER TO** 

**REFER TO** 

Ref 10. Classification of animal rabies cases (NRPCP)

**REFER TO** 

Ref 11. Quick response (NRPCP)

Ref 4. List of accredited ABP Providers (PhilHealth)





If the animal tested positive in the laboratory, conduct a community education campaign to counsel and educate the affected families and communities together with the PHO/CHO/MHO and barangay officials.

# Laboratory staff



Collect brain specimen from the animal's head and perform the recommended laboratory tests.

**REFER TO** Ref 12. Terrestrial Manual Ch3 Rabies (OIE)



If the result is positive, immediately notify the sender, CVO/MAO, PVO, regional animal rabies coordinator, regional human rabies coordinator, and RESU.

results to stakeholders

If the result is inconclusive, immediately notify the sender, CVO/MAO, and PVO.

Release the official results to the PVO, CVO/MAO, and sender immediately.



## **Regional animal rabies coordinator**



If the animal has been tested in the laboratory and the result was positive or inconclusive, the laboratory staff will immediately notify you of the result. Coordinate with the PVO/CVO/MAO immediately and plan for the emergency response. Provide vaccines, manpower, and/or supplies as necessary to support the ring vaccination campaign. Report the accomplished vaccination campaign to BAI.



Inform the regional human health coordinator and RESU, and ensure that the PVO and CVO/MAO have also received the result.

# **Regional human rabies coordinator / RESU**



If the animal tested positive in the laboratory, the regional animal rabies coordinator will immediately notify you of the result. Inform your coordinator/ESU counterpart of the result and ensure that the PHO and CHO/MHO have also received the result.



Coordinate with the PHO/CHO/MHO and ensure that investigations have been done, and all bite victims have been identified and given PEP.

## Local human health - PHO/CHO/MHO



The PVO/CVO/MAO will have coordinated with you regarding an found animal carcass that tested positive for rabies. Schedule a date for investigation and identification of bite victims. Coordinate the

field investigation with the PVO/CVO/MAO. Identify and interview all bite victims.

Refer the bite victims to nearest ABTC.





Conduct a community education campaign to counsel and educate the affected families and communities together with the PVO/CVO/MAO and barangay officials.

# **ABTC/ABC** staff



Interview the persons referred by the PHO/CHO/MHO or PVO/CVO/MAO. Conduct risk assessment.



bite victims

Administer PEP as recommended in the DOH guidelines. Ensure that the bite patients completes their vaccine doses. Patients may be reminded through SMS or followed-up by the BHWs.



**REFER TO** 

Leg 2. DOH AO 2018-13 Revised guidelines on the management of rabies exposures

Ref 13.Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (WHO)



Report the patient details through NaRIS.

# Animal carcass received in the laboratory



## **RECEIVED IN THE LABORATORY**



#### Laboratory staff



Receive animal carcass submitted for rabies diagnosis and ensure that the carcass has been disposed of properly.

REFER TO

Interview the person submitting the carcass and ensure that the laboratory request form is completely filled out.

Form 3. Rabies Submission Form (BAI) Form 4. Laboratory Diagnosis Form (RITM)



Identification of other exposed animals

Ask if there are animals bitten or exposed to the animal being tested. Advise the sender that the PVO/CVO/ MAO may come to capture and confine the exposed animals. Inform the sender about the need to possibly continue the isolation and observation of the exposed animals if the laboratory result is positive or inconclusive.



Identification of bite victims Ask if the animal being tested has bitten, licked, or scratched other humans. Advise the sender to identify all persons exposed to the animal. This will help the PVO/CVO/MAO and PHO/CHO/MHO in their investigation if the laboratory result is positive or inconclusive, and will help facilitate immediate administration of PEP.



Collect brain specimen from the animal's head and perform the recommended laboratory tests.



Assessment

If the animal being tested fits the definition of a suspect animal, report results as described in page 11. Inform the PVO/CVO/MAO of the history of the animal.

- OR -

If the animal being tested died of unknown causes or was involved in a vehicular accident, report results as described in page 22. Inform the PVO/CVO/MAO of the history of the animal. Animal found dead trigger

Suspect animal

trigger

# Local animal health - PVO/CVO/MAO

If the animal reported by the laboratory fits the definition of a suspect animal, conduct investigation and response as described in page 2.
- OR If the animal reported by the laboratory died of unknown causes or was involved in a vehicular accident, conduct investigation and response as described in page 16.



# Human bitten by an animal



# **HUMAN BITTEN BY ANIMAL**



Click here for a 1-page view of the flow diagram



# **Regional Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit - ESR staff**



Review reports about bite incidents (e.g. unprovoked bites, clustering of biting incidents, bitten by a rabid dog, involved multiple bite victims, etc.) and verify these reports immediately with the sender and the concerned LGU. Collect information on the status of the bite victim/s, biting animal, location, and

contact information of sender. Upon verification, coordinate these details to the PHO and CHO/MHO.





Reporting to information system Report the patient details through the ESR reporting system.

#### **Barangay staff** - BHW, BAHA/BALW/etc, barangay captain, sanitation officer, other officials



Respond to alerts about bite incidents and provide assistance to the bite victims. Ensure that the wound has been thoroughly washed with soap and water for at least 15 minutes.



Refer the bite victim/s to the nearest ABTC/ABC.



Ref 4. List of accredited ABP Providers (PhilHealth)



You may be approached by the bite victim again concerning the biting animal showing signs of rabies. Notify the PVO and CVO/MAO immediately. Provide all details including contact information to facilitate a rapid investigation.

# ABTC/ABC staff



Accommodate the walk-in bite victim/s or victim/s referred by the barangay. Conduct risk assessment.

Referral to a health facility



Administer PEP as recommended in the DOH guidelines. Ensure that the bite patients completes their vaccine doses. Patients may be reminded through SMS or followed-up by the BHWs.



**REFER TO** 

Leg 2. DOH AO 2018-13 Revised guidelines on the management of rabies exposures

Leg 3. DOH AO 2011-02&DA AO no1 s2011 Guidelines on managing exposures secondary to vaccinated dog bites

Ref 13. Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (WHO)



# ABTC/ABC staff



Interview the bite victim/s or relatives.

If the bite was provoked and from a pet with seemingly no signs of rabies, instruct the bite patient

Refer to Ref 2. Signs of animal rabies (Canine Rabies Blueprint)

FOR MORE INFORMATION

to confine the animal at home away from other animals and humans and observe for 14 days. Explain the signs to look out for. Ensure that the bite patient has the contact details of the barangay, PVO/CVO/MAO.

0

- OR -

If the bite was from an animal with any of the following characteristics: (a) with rabies signs, (b) unknown free-roaming animal, or (c) involved in multiple bite incidents, notify PHO/CHO/MHO immediately and instruct owner to notify barangay staff or PVO/CVO/MAO. If there are other bite victim/s, inform the patient to inform them to proceed to the ABTC/ABC immediately.



If the animal was home quarantined, ask about the status of the biting animal every patient visit. If the animal is healthy after 14 days, instruct the owner to release the animal from confinement.

Animal quarantine

- OR -

If the animal shows signs of rabies within 14 days, notify PHO and CHO/MHO immediately. Instruct the owner to also notify the barangay, PVO and CVO/MAO.



Report the patient details through NaRIS.



# Local human health - PHO/CHO/MHO



Notify the PVO and CVO/MAO immediately about the animal that showed signs of rabies during home quarantine or that was involved in a high risk bite incident. Provide all details including contact information to facilitate a rapid investigation.





# Back to diagram

# Suspect human case





Click here for a 1-page view of the flow diagram



# Local human health - PHO/CHO/MHO



Assess patients consulting in the RHU who present with rabies-like symptoms. Interview the patient and relatives and collect the patient's detailed history including exposure to animals.

rabies case detected

Regularly conduct death certificate reviews for all deaths due to rabies.



Refer all suspect human rabies cases to a hospital that has a facility for rabies patients. Coordinate with the hospital ahead of time to enable the hospital staff to prepare for the admission of the suspect rabies patient.



Report the suspect human rabies case to the next higher level human rabies coordinator and your ESU counterpart. Inform your animal health coordinator counterpart as well.



Coordinate with your ESU counterpart and other human health coordinators. Conduct case investigation using EDCS Rabies Case Investigation Form and ESR Verification Report.



Form 6. EDCS Rables Case Investigation For Form 5. ESR Verification Report



Identify other persons who may have been exposed to the same animal.

Identify also other persons exposed to the patient.



Interview the exposed persons and conduct risk assessment.



Refer them to the nearest ABTC/ABC.

REFER TO Ref 4. List of accredited ABP Providers (PhilHealth)



Conduct a community education campaign to counsel and educate the affected families and communities together with the PVO/CVO/MAO and barangay officials.



Coordinate with your counterpart animal and local/regional human rabies coordinators. Inform your LCE about the human rabies case in your locality and lobby for support for the LGU's rabies program.



# **Hospital staff**



Admit patients presenting with rabies-like symptoms. Re-assess the patient to rule out any differential diagnosis.

ealth facility

Ensure that the patient is provided a quiet, draft-free isolation room. The room should also have grilled windows and doors that can be locked from outside.



If the patient dies, inform the morgue and funeral services about the cause of death. Ensure that biosafety practices are observed when handling the body.



Ref 15. Clinical Management (RITM)

Interview and counselling of relatives

Interview the patient and/or relatives and obtain a detailed history of the patient and exposure to dogs, cats, bats, or other domestic animals. Counsel the relatives and explain to them that rabies is 99.9% fatal and that the patient will receive palliative care.



Obtain consent from the relatives and collect ante-mortem specimen for laboratory testing.

If the patient dies, obtain consent from the relatives and

collect post-mortem specimen for laboratory testing.



Ref 16. Collection of samples (NRPCP) Ref 17. Laboratory techniques in rabies (WHO) Ref 18. Specimen collection, handling, storage, and transport guidelines (RITM)

Ensure that the specimen is stored properly. Coordinate with the laboratory staff before sending to the rabies diagnostic laboratory.



If the patient dies, assess the signs and history of exposure of the patient to form a clinical diagnosis. Consider using the verbal autopsy questionnaire particularly if no specimens have been collected for laboratory testing.





Report the suspect human rabies case to the HESU. If the hospital does not have a HESU, report directly to the CESU/MESU, PESU, RESU, and EB.





# Hospital staff / Hospital Epidemiology & Surveillance Unit



Report the suspect human rabies to the CESU/MESU, PESU, RESU, and EB within 24 hours.





Sharing of results to stakeholders

Coordinate with the hospital and laboratory staff regarding the clinical diagnosis and laboratory result of the patient. Report these immediately to the CESU/MESU, PESU, RESU, and all local and regional human rabies coordinators.



If there are no laboratory tests done, classify the patient as Suspect or Probable based on the DOH case definitions. You may also use the guide found at the back of the verbal autopsy tool.

If there are laboratory tests done, classify the patient as Confirmed if the result is positive.



**REFER TO** 



Report to PIDSR.

Ref 19. Classification of human rabies cases (NRPCP) Ref 20. Guide to decide on the likelihood of human rabies using the verbal autopsy tool (WHO)

# **Regional Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit - ESR staff**



Review reports about suspect human rabies cases and verify these reports immediately with the sender. Collect information on the status of the patient, location, and contact information of sender for easy coordination with the local human health office.



Report the verified suspect human rabies case to the local and regional human rabies coordinators and ESUs, DPCB, and EB.





## Laboratory staff



Conduct laboratory tests on the ante- and/or postmortem specimens collected from the patient.





Report results to the hospital staff and HESU immediately.

# Local Epidemiology and Surveillance Units



Report the suspect human rabies case to the next higher level ESUs, EB and your human rabies coordinator counterpart. Ensure that the animal health coordinator counterpart has been informed as well.



Coordinate with your human health coordinator counterpart and other ESUs and conduct case investigation using EDCS Rabies Case Investigation Form and ESR Verification Form.



Identify other persons who may have been exposed to the same animal.





Interview the exposed persons and conduct risk assessment.

REFER TO

Ref 4. List of accredited ABP Providers (PhilHealth)

Refer them to the nearest ABTC.



If the human rabies case has been reported from the hospital, coordinate with the HESU regarding the

clinical or laboratory diagnosis. If the person is to be classified as a rabies case, classify as Suspect, Probable, or Confirmed.

- OR -

REFER TO Ref 19. Classification of human rabies cases (NRPCP)

If the human rabies case was reported through death certificate review, classify the case as Suspect or Probable. Ensure that this case has not been reported previously.



Update or report to PIDSR.

Reporting to information system



# **Regional human rabies coordinator**



Report the human rabies case to DPCB immediately. Inform also the regional animal rabies coordinator.

Coordinate with the PHO/CHO/MHO and ensure that investigations have been done.



Provide support in the case investigations if needed.



exposed persons

Ensure that all exposed persons have been identified and given PEP.

# **Regional Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit**



Report the human rabies case to EB immediately.

Coordinate with the PESU, CESU/MESU and ensure that investigations have been done.



Provide support in the case investigations if needed.

Case investigation



Ensure that all exposed persons have been identified and directed to the ABTC/ABC.



Coordinate with the PESU and CESU/MESU regarding the classification of the case. Provide support as needed.

REFER TO Ref 19. Classification of human rabies cases (NRPCP)



Coordinate with the PESU and CESU/MESU regarding the reporting to PIDSR. Provide support as needed.

Reporting to information system



# ABTC/ABC staff



Administer PEP as recommended in the DOH guidelines. Ensure that the patients completes their

vaccine doses. Patients may be reminded through SMS or followed-up by the BHWs.



Report the patient details through NaRIS.

**REFER TO** 

Leg 2. DOH AO 2018-13 Revised guidelines on the management of rabies exposures

Ref 13. Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (WHO)

# **Epidemiology Bureau - PIDSR**



Report the human rabies case to WHO.

Ensure that BAI has been informed of the human rabies case.

Generate and disseminate surveillance reports to stakeholders.

## **Disease Prevention and Control Bureau**



Ensure that BAI has been informed of the human rabies case.

Ensure that investigations have been done and that PEP has been provided to all exposed persons.

#### Barangay staff - BHW, BAHA/BALW/etc, barangay captain, other officials



Assist the PVO/CVO/MAO and PHO/CHO/MHO in the conduct of a community education campaign to counsel and educate the affected families and communities.

onduct of comm education





Conduct animal ring vaccination.



Report the accomplished ring vaccination campaign to the next higher level animal rabies coordinator (i.e. PVO and regional rabies coordinator).





Conduct a community education campaign in the community together with the PHO/CHO/MHO and barangay officials.





Coordinate with your counterpart animal and human rabies coordinators. Provide support in informing your LCE about the human rabies case in your locality and lobby for support for the LGU's rabies program.

# **Regional animal rabies coordinator**



. Provide vaccines, manpower, and/or supplies as necessary to support the ring vaccination campaign. Report the accomplished vaccination campaign to BAI.



Version 1.0 30 November 2021