

ANIMAL BITES AND SCRATCH POLICY

According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and World Health Organization (WHO), treatment for animal bite wounds and scratches will depend on: the localization of the bite wound and scratch, health status of the victim and rabies vaccination of the animal.

Basic principles to address bite/ scratches wounds include:

- A thorough wound lavage with soap, immediately.
- Control any bleeding, if possible.
- Seek medical attention as soon as possible and follow physician's orders. o Inform the physician about your tetanus vaccine history.
- Report the health and vaccination status of the animal.
- Contact the Department of Health as soon as possible to report the incident.
 - o If rabies exposure is considered, follow rabies post-exposition protocols as determined by the Department of Health.