

## Why should I worry about Rabies?

- Rabies is almost always fatal. Worldwide, an average of 55,000 people die of rabies each year.
- It is transmitted to humans by a bite, a contact with a wound or with mouth, nasal cavity and eyes or careless handling of a rabid animal injured or dead.
- No treatment is available. Death usually occurs within 10 days of the onset of clinical signs.

## How do I protect my pets against Rabies?

- Make sure your pets are vaccinated against rabies.
- Do not allow pets to wander freely, particularly at night.
- Keep your distance from unfamiliar animals, particularly those who appear sick.
- Never feed wild animals.
- Close all windows without screens at night to keep bats from getting inside your home.

## What animals can transmit Rabies?

Wild animals are the main reservoirs of the rabies virus (bats, raccoons, skunks, and foxes) Domestic animals are accidental hosts but, usually, people come into contact with the virus through their pets..

## Can an animal with no symptoms still transmit the virus?

The rabies virus can be present in the saliva of an animal for several days before obvious symptoms of rabies. All animals whose saliva contains the virus will soon show symptoms of the disease and will die.

## What are the symptoms of Rabies?

- Extreme restlessness and aggression.
- Attacks objects, animals, and even its own limbs.
- Fits of furious rabies alternate with periods of withdrawal.
- The animal may become withdrawn and seek seclusion.
- It may no longer be afraid of humans.
- If nocturnal animal may become active during the day.
- Head and neck paralysis may result in an abnormal facial expression, excessive salivation.

