

## NOTICE

# PROCEDURES FOR ANIMAL BITES AND SCRATCHES AND OTHER ANIMAL EXPOSURES

**FOR MEDICAL EMERGENCY, CALL 911 IMMEDIATELY**

- 1. CLEANSE WOUND:** Wash all wounds immediately with antiseptic soap and a high volume of water for at least 5 minutes, 10 minutes if extensive or extremely dirty. Scrub wound enough to make it re-bleed a little to help clean the wound.
- 2. CONTROL BLEEDING:** Apply bandage and firmly press to control bleeding.
- 3. SEEK MEDICAL FOLLOW-UP:** Employees (including students) go immediately (*do not wait 24 hrs*) to:
  - (if during work hours) Employee Health Services, 57 Bee Street, (843) 792-2991
  - (if after hours) Emergency Room, 96 Jonathan Lucas Street
- 4. REPORT BITE:** Immediately (*do not wait 24 hrs*) report to:
  - your supervisor or Principal Investigator.

If the offending animal was infected with a microorganism and/or recombinant nucleic acid molecule, also report to:

  - Biosafety Officer (office 843-792-4304; pager 843-792-0590 / 12883)
  - Institutional Biosafety Committee (phone: 792-6521 or 792-9532 or 792-1108)
- 5. NOTIFY**
  - Employee Health Services within 24 hrs by filing a ACORD-First Report of Injury form at <https://www.carc.musc.edu/acord/>

### Other Information

**Laboratory Rodent Bites:** Do not usually cause infection unless very deep bite or unusual pathogen is present.

**Animals with Unexplained Neurological Symptoms:** Check with supervisor and co-workers regarding rabies status of animal; observation period for animal may be necessary if rabies status is unknown. Do not kill animal. If the animal is dead, preserve physical remains in the freezer for necropsy.

**Dog and Cat Bites:** High frequency of wound infection with Pasteurella and other oral pathogens; likely to require antibiotic treatment.