

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE



Summer 2014

NEWSLETTER



Rabies is a deadly virus spread to people from the saliva of infected animals. Once a person begins showing signs and symptoms of rabies, the disease is nearly always fatal. For that reason, anyone who may have a risk of contracting rabies should receive rabies vaccines for protection.

CAUSES

Rabies infection is caused by the rabies virus. The virus is spread through the saliva of infected animals. Infected animals can spread the virus by biting another animal or person. In rare cases, rabies can be spread when infected saliva gets into an open wound or the mucous membranes, such as the mouth or eyes. This could occur if an infected animal were to lick an open cut on your skin.



Animals that can transmit the rabies virus

Any mammal can transmit the rabies virus. The animals most likely to transmit the rabies virus to people include:

Pets and farm animals

- Bats
- Cows
- Dogs
- Goats
- Ferrets
- Rabbits
- Horses
- Cats

Wild animals

- Skunks
- Beavers
- Coyotes
- Foxes
- Woodchucks
- Monkeys
- Raccoons

There has never been a documented case of human-to-human rabies transmission.

SYMPTOMS

Rabies doesn't cause any signs or symptoms until late in the disease, often just days before death. Signs and symptoms may include:

- Fever
- Excessive salivation
- Hallucinations
- Confusion
- Difficulty swallowing
- Headache
- Agitation
- Fear of water (hydrophobia) because of the difficulty in swallowing
- Partial paralysis
- Insomnia
- Anxiety

When to see a doctor

Seek immediate medical care if you're bitten by any animal. Based on your injuries and the situation in which the bite occurred, you and your doctor can decide whether you should receive treatment to prevent rabies.

Even if you aren't sure whether you've been bitten, seek medical attention. For instance, a bat that flies into your room while you're sleeping may bite you without waking you. If you awake to find a bat in your room, assume you've been bitten. Also, if you find a bat near a person who can't report a bite, such as a small child or a person with a disability, assume that person has been bitten.

What you can do in the meantime

Wash your wound gently and thoroughly with soap and generous amounts of water. This may help wash away the virus.

If the animal that bit you can be contained or captured without causing more injury, do so. Do not kill the animal with a blow or a shot to the head, as the resulting injuries may make it difficult to perform laboratory tests to determine whether the animal has rabies.

Tell your doctor that you have captured the animal that bit you. Your doctor may then contact the local health department to determine what to do with the animal.

Treatment for people bitten by animals with rabies

If you've been bitten by an animal that is known to have rabies, you'll receive a series of shots to prevent the rabies virus from infecting you. If the animal that bit you can't be found, it may be safest to assume that the animal has rabies. This will depend on several factors, such as the type of animal and the situation in which the bite occurred.

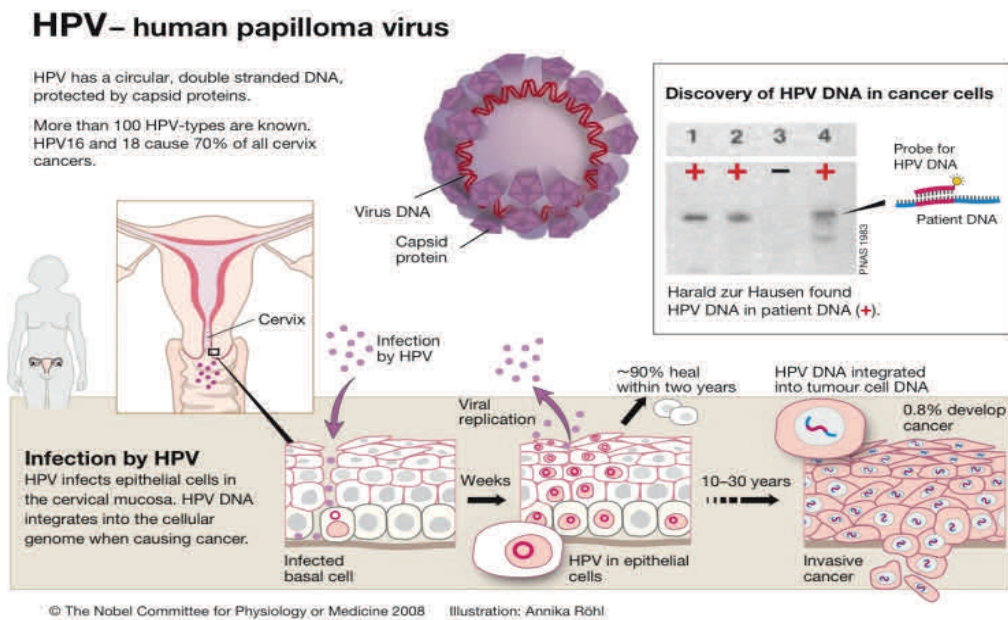
Rabies shots include:

- A fast-acting shot (rabies immune globulin) to prevent the virus from infecting you. Part of this injection is given near the area where the animal bit you, as soon as possible after the bite.
- A series of rabies vaccines to help your body learn to identify and fight the rabies virus. Rabies vaccines are given as injections in your arm. You will receive four injections over 14 days.

It is estimated that as many as 79 million Americans in the late teens and early 20's are infected with HPV, and an estimated 14 million new infections will occur each year. The virus is transmitted by direct contact with an infected person. Each year, approximately 19,000 cancers occur in women and 8,000 in men that are attributable to HPV. There are over 100 HPV types; however, 4 types – 6, 11, 16, and 18 – cause the majority of disease burden. High-risk types of HPV (16 and 18) are responsible for approximately 70% of all cervical cancers. Additionally, HPV types 6 and 11 are responsible for 90% of all cases of genital warts.

Two vaccines are currently licensed in the United States for protection against HPV infection. Cervarix (HPV2) is licensed for use in females for protection against HPV types 16 and 18. Gardasil (HPV4) is licensed for use in males and females for protection against HPV types 6, 11, 16 and 18. The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) supports vaccination for individuals 9 – 26 years of age. Vaccination is **routinely** recommended at 11-12 years of age and also at 13 - 26 years of age for those who have not been previously vaccinated.

If you would like more information on HPV disease, visit <http://www.cdc.gov/hpv>. For more information on HPV vaccination contact your family doctor or the Saginaw County Department of Public Health's Immunization Program at (989) 758-3840.



References

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *Epidemiology and Prevention of Vaccine-Preventable Diseases* 12th ed. Atkinson, W., Wolfe, S., & Hamborsky, J. eds. Washington DC: Public Health Foundation, 2011.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. HPV Vaccine for Preteen and Teens. www.cdc.gov/vaccines/who/teens/vaccines/hpv.html.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Human Papillomavirus (HPV). <http://www.cdc.gov/hpv>

**COMMUNICABLE DISEASE
REPORTED FOR SAGINAW COUNTY
FOR THE QUARTER
04/01/2014—06/30/2014**

Disease	No. Reported
AIDS, AGGREGATE	0
ANIMAL BITE	29
CAMPYLOBACTER	0
CHLAMYDIA (Genital)	277
CRYPTOSPORIDIOSIS	1
FLU LIKE DISEASE	1289
GASTROINTESTINAL ILLNESS	136
GIARDISSIS	1
GONORRHEA	82
HEAD LICE	37
HEPATITIS B ACUTE	0
HEPATITIS B CHRONIC	3
HEPATITIS C ACUTE	4
HEPATITIS C CHRONIC	31
INFLUENZA	3
LEGIONELLOSIS	3
MENINGITIS-ASEPTIC	2
MENINGITIS-BACTERIAL OTHER	1
MYOBACTERIUM	1
RABIES	0
SALMONELLOSIS	2
SHINGLES	0
STREP THROAT	154
STREPTOCOCCUS PNEUMONIA, INVASIVE	3
SYPHILLIS-LATE LATENT	0
TUBERCULOSIS	0
VZ INFECTION, UNSPECIFIED	2
YERSINIA ENTERITIS	0

**COMMUNICABLE DISEASE YTD
REPORTED FOR SAGINAW COUNTY
01/01/2014—06/30/2014**

Disease	No. Reported
AIDS, AGGREGATE	2
ANIMAL BITE	42
CAMPYLOBACTER	1
CHLAMYDIA (Genital)	577
CRYPTOSPORIDIOSIS	2
FLU LIKE DISEASE	4267
GASTROINTESTINAL ILLNESS	404
GIARDISSIS	2
GONORRHEA	132
HEAD LICE	72
HEPATITIS B ACUTE	0
HEPATITIS B CHRONIC	7
HEPATITIS C ACUTE	4
HEPATITIS C CHRONIC	65
INFLUENZA	62
LEGIONELLOSIS	4
MENINGITIS-ASEPTIC	3
MENINGITIS-BACTERIAL OTHER	1
MYOBACTERIUM	3
RABIES	0
SALMONELLOSIS	6
SHINGLES	1
STREP THROAT	288
STREPTOCOCCUS PNEUMONIA, INVASIVE	5
SYPHILLIS-LATE LATENT	0
TUBERCULOSIS	0
VZ INFECTION, UNSPECIFIED	3
YERSINIA ENTERITIS	0



**Saginaw County Department of Public Health
1600 N. Michigan Avenue
Saginaw, MI 48602**

Please visit our website at www.saginawpublichealth.org
where our communicable disease pamphlets are available.

This newsletter is provided to all Saginaw County healthcare providers, hospitals, schools, local colleges, universities, urgent care facilities and local media centers.

If you would like to receive this newsletter by e-mail please submit your e-mail address to: sellison@saginawcounty.com

Articles for this newsletter are written and researched by the following members of the Personal and Preventive Health Services Division:
Tawnya Simon, R.N., B.S.N., M.S.A., Susie Garlick, R.N.,
Kemberly Parham, R.N., B.S.N.,