TREATING ANIMAL BITES

See a healthcare provider as soon as possible. Report the bite to Public Health.



If an animal bites you

- 1. Wash the bite well with soap and water right away.
- 2. See a healthcare provider as soon as possible.
- 3. Report the bite to Public Health Madison & Dane County. Call (608) 255-2345 and ask for Animal Services.

Care you might get for your bite

- A healthcare provider will treat your wound to help prevent rabies and help it heal well.
- You may need a tetanus shot if you haven't had one in the past 5 years.
- You may need human rabies immune globulin (HRIG) and rabies vaccines. If vaccines are recommended, you will need three more shots after your first visit. It's important to finish the series of shots to be fully protected from rabies.

If you don't have insurance

- Urgent care centers are less expensive than the emergency room. Call first to be sure they have vaccine and can see you.
- Ask to speak to Patient Resources for help with the cost of the visit and follow up care.
- Vaccines companies have programs to help with cost. They give vaccine for free to uninsured people who qualify. Ask the urgent care if they take part in a program like this.

Dane County Urgent Care Locations

- UW Health—East (608) 242-6862
- UW Health—West (608) 828-7676
- Dean—East (608) 260-6020
- Dean—West (608) 250-1525
- Stoughton Hospital (608) 873-6611



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