

Next Steps in Rabies Prevention: Human Exposures

This flowchart can be used by rabies response partners or affected individuals to determine the best next steps in rabies prevention.

“Exposure” is defined as a bite, scratch, or any contact with saliva or brain/nervous tissue through open cuts in the skin, scratches, or mucous membranes. Any possibility of contact with a bat is also considered a risk of rabies exposure, since bites or scratches from a bat can be too small to see or feel. If there is uncertainty around exposure (i.e., bat found in a child’s bedroom), proceed as if an exposure occurred.

