

UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO

SUBJECT: REPORTING OF ANIMAL BITES

Policy No: S-08-023

POLICY

All persons bitten by animals owned by the University of Toledo shall immediately complete an Occurrence Report /Injury Illness Incident Report, for submission to the Risk Management Department.

PURPOSE

To satisfy both internal and external reporting requirements, to ensure prompt response to the potential for communicable disease, and to identify the mechanism for obtaining first aid.

PROCEDURE

In the event of an animal bite, the individual should report to Student Medical Services on the Main Campus or University Health Services on the Health Science Campus, or the Emergency Department, as appropriate. The individual should also contact the Safety & Health Department, at 419-383-5069 on HSC or 419-530-3600 on Main Campus, to confirm the date of his/her last tetanus shot.

All dog, cat or other rabies-susceptible animal bites that result in a breaking of the skin shall be reported to the Director, Division of Laboratory Animal Medicine (DLAM) and the Animal Care Program (ACP). The Director, in consultation with the supervisor of the person bitten, will ensure that an Occurrence Report /Injury Illness Incident Report is completed promptly and submitted to the Risk Management Department. Furthermore, the Director shall complete any required reporting to the Toledo Health Department.

All dogs, cats, unconditioned monkeys and wild animals will be quarantined upon arrival at the University of Toledo, in accordance with the policy of the DLAM/ACP.

All individuals having contact with animals shall be immunized in accordance with the policy of the DLAM/ACP.

Research animals may be quarantined for rabies observation as deemed appropriate by the Director, DLAM and applicable local and state laws.

Following the occurrence of a dog (or cat) bite, the dog (or cat) will either be quarantined or euthanized and decapitated (after consultation of all parties involved). The Director of DLAM/ACP will direct, as appropriate, that the animal's head be packaged by DLAM/ACP personnel for shipment by the Toledo Health Department Animal Bite Investigator to the State Health Department laboratory for diagnostic evaluation.

The health care provider will be advised of the results of the Health Department's evaluation, and shall notify the affected individual of appropriate follow up action.

***NOTE: In regards to wild animals (including but not limited to dogs, cats, raccoons, squirrels and woodchucks), their feeding is strongly discouraged. Wild animals can potentially carry rabies and other diseases communicable to humans.**

Source: Safety & Health Committee

Effective Date: 6/1/93

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