



1. Bites from bats and high-risk wild mammals (e.g. raccoons, skunks, and foxes) warrant consideration of immediate post-exposure prophylaxes (PEP). In case of direct contact between human and bat, the possibility of a bite should be considered unless the exposed person can be reasonably certain that a bite did not occur. PEP should be considered for persons who were in the same room as a bat and who might be unaware, or unable to communicate, that a bite had occurred.
2. Rabies has rarely been diagnosed in small mammals such as rabbits and small rodents (e.g., squirrels, chipmunks, rats, hamsters, gerbils, guinea pigs, and mice). Rabbits kept in outdoor hutches may be exposed to rabies; consult Maine CDC (1-800-821-5821) when evaluating potential exposures associated with rabbits in hutches. Rabies has been reported in large rodents (e.g., beavers, woodchucks, etc.) in areas where terrestrial rabies is enzootic.
3. Epidemiologists with questions about rabies exposure assessments may contact Medical Epidemiology, ID Epi Program Manager, or Rabies Surveillance Epidemiologist for assistance.

Figure 3. Algorithm for Rabies Exposure Assessment

(Adapted from CE Rupprecht, RV Gibbons. Prophylaxis against Rabies. NEJM 2004;351:2626-35.)