

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

FIRST AID FOR BITES OR SCRATCHES FROM RESEARCH ANIMALS

For life threatening or immobilizing injuries, call 911

The following steps should be taken for any *RESEARCH* animal bite or severe scratch:

- 1) Immediately wash the wound and surrounding area thoroughly with an antibacterial soap. It is recommended to scrub vigorously for 3-5 minutes, rinse, and repeat two more times.
- 2) Inform your supervisor of the incident.
- 3) If exposure was to a *fish; frog; toad; snake; lizard; bird; rodent; pig; rabbit; sheep*:
 - a) If it has been greater than 10 years since you received a tetanus vaccine or booster, seek medical attention. Otherwise, observe the wound for several days and seek professional medical care if there are any signs of infection (redness, drainage, increased pain, etc).
- 4) If exposure was to a *bat; cat; dog; large wild mammal (porcupine, weasel, etc.); ferret; non-human primate*:
 - a) Seek medical attention.
 - b) If bitten by a dog, cat, or other potential rabies carrier, notify the ULAM clinical veterinarian at 734-764-0277. DO NOT euthanize the animal or dispose of the carcass.
 - c) If bitten or scratched by a macaque, you should be familiar with the ULAM Macaque Monkey Bite/Scratch Protocol.

Seeking medical attention: **It is important to know in advance where you should report on weekdays during regular business hours, after hours, weekends, and holidays.** Generally, university employees report to Occupational Health Services (OHS) at the C380 Med Inn Building on weekdays during normal business hours, and to the U-M Hospital emergency room after hours, weekends, and holidays. Medical care for students is covered by their personal health insurance policy.

Forms to be completed

[Employee Injury or Illness Report Form](#) (the same form that is completed for any work-related injury) and the [EHS Incident and Near Miss Report Form](#). Even if an individual elects not to seek medical attention, the illness or injury report should be completed as a matter of record for each work-related injury. Follow the directions on the Work Connections website to obtain proper medical treatment and follow-up.

If you have general questions about work-related injuries, or how to report a laboratory safety incident, please [contact the EHS Office](#).

For specific questions about proper animal handling and restraint techniques, please contact your [ULAM Faculty Veterinarian](#).

Pertinent Phone Numbers and URLs

- UM Work Connections: 734-615-0643 www.umich.edu/~connect
- Occupational Health Services: 734-764-8021
<http://www.hr.umich.edu/mhealthy/programs/occupational/ohs/index.html>
- U-M Hospital Emergency Room: 734-936-6666 www.med.umich.edu/em
- ULAM: 764-0277 <https://animalcare.umich.edu/unit-laboratory-animal-medicine>
- Animal Care & Use Office (ACUO): 734-763-8028
<https://animalcare.umich.edu/animal-care-use-office>
- Environment, Health & Safety (EHS) (734) 647-1143 <http://ehs.umich.edu/>