

# RABIES TIPS

Kansas Department of Health and Environment Epi-Hotline 1-877-427-7317

2017

## Information for Local Health Departments

### Rabies Guidelines

- The Rabies Disease Investigations Guidelines, published by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, contains all of the information that you need to conduct a rabies or animal bite investigation.
- You can call Kansas Department of Health and Environment at 1-877-427-7317. A trained epidemiologist is available 24 hours a day to provide you with assistance.
- The Kansas State University Rabies Laboratory submits rabies test results for all animals tested in Kansas daily through electronic laboratory reporting into EpiTrax.
- The local health department will be called directly by KDHE for all rabies positive, unsuitable, or indeterminate results.
- Call the Veterinarian and the animal owners immediately.
- Conduct a rabies exposure risk assessment for all people, and animals, that may have had contact with the rabid animal *10 days prior to onset of clinical signs*.
- Work with the local animal control, animal shelter, and law enforcement to manage the case.

### Other Information

The Rabies Disease Investigations Guidelines can be found on the KDHE website under Infectious Disease Epidemiology and Response (IDER), go to disease investigation where you will find disease investigation guidelines and other important forms and fact sheets.

*“The Kansas Department of Health and Environment’s IDER staff answer about 450 calls each year on rabies related issues and provide technical support to local health departments...”*



### Rabies is a Reportable Disease!

Many zoonotic diseases that can be transmitted from humans to animals, when diagnosed in humans, are reportable to KDHE IDER.