Animal Bite/Scratch Reporting

Victim scratched/bitten by mammal
OR
Any contact with a bat
OR
Bat found in home

Fax Bite/Scratch Report form to Public Health (for all exposures)‡

Advise patient to contact local county Animal Control for case follow-up*†

Mammal available for observation** or testing€

Healthy after 10 day observation or tests negative for rabies
PEP not recommended by Public Health

Dies during observation or 10-day observation not completed
Test animal/May recommend PEP: Public Health Follow-up

Tests positive for rabies
PEP recommended: Public Health follow up

Large mammals: Domesticated/Wild
May recommend PEP: Public Health Follow up

Small mammals (ex. squirrel, chipmunk, rabbit, etc.)
Consult Public Health

Mammal not available or not tested

‡Both Bite/scratch and non-bite/scratch cases (i.e. bat in home) and/or post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) recommendations vary, please consult Public Health for advisement. Please ask all patients about recent travel history as rabies epidemiology and its effect on follow-up may vary based on country of exposure.

Animal Control Dispatch Numbers: Cobb County – (770) 499-4136, Douglas County – (770) 942-5961
CDPH Epidemiology: 770-514-2432, FAX 770-514-2313, GA Poison Center: 800-222-1222

*Public Health will follow up on all cases if no Animal Control report is received to verify health status of animal after observation or testing. Large wild mammals (raccoons, bats, etc.) will be tested immediately if available.

**Dogs, cats, and ferrets that bite or scratch a human or domestic animal should undergo a 10 day observation. Livestock observational period length is dependent upon type & size of animal. Wildlife and bats should be euthanized and tested, observation periods are not accepted.

€Small mammals (squirrels, chipmunks, etc.) are normally not approved for testing, but will be evaluated on a case-by-case scenario.