

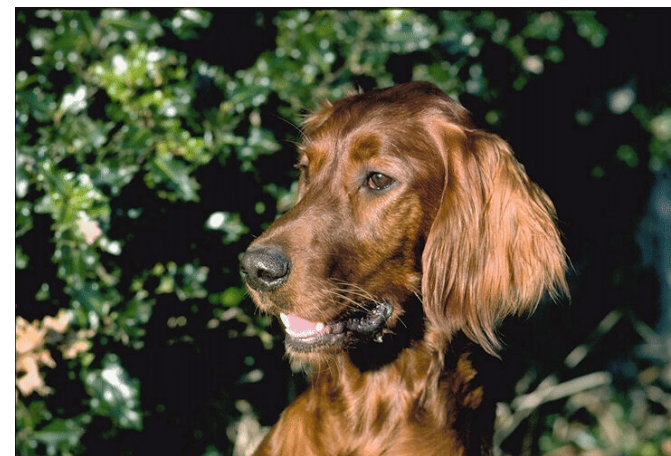
PORT SHEPSTONE REGIONAL HOSPITAL EMERGENCY UNIT / CASUALTY

RABIES AWARENESS



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'RABIES KILL'

# RABIES AWARENESS

## I. RABIES

It is an incurable disease that develops after someone has been bitten by a rabid animal. This disease can be preventable by immediately reporting to the nearest hospital for treatment within 24-36 hours after the bite.

## II. CARRIERS OF RABIES

Dog, cow, cat, donkey, monkey, human being, goat, rabbit etc.

## III. SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS IN ANIMALS

- \* Salivating
- \* Behaving strangely
- \* Paralysis
- \* Hanging lower jaw
- \* Runs around biting everything coming across
- \* Death

## IV. WHAT DO I NEED TO DO AFTER THE BITE

- \* Immediately get some running water nearby, wash the wound until you are happy that the saliva has drained out from the wound.
- \* Cover the wound with clean cloth or banana cover.
- \* Try and find out the owner of the animal, get certificate with you when you go to the hospital.
- \* Know the street address of the dog owner or the nearest store or school.
- \* Go to your nearest hospital for treatment immediately. You need not to start at the local clinic, so as to avoid the delay of commencing the treatment.
- \* After the commencement of treatment at the hospital you need to observe the dog for 10-14 days if its still alive or sick.
- \* You will need to report to the hospital if the condition of the animal changes or dies.
- \* If the dog dies, the Environmental Health will be notified to go and take the brain biopsy for testing.

## V. AT THE HOSPITAL

- \* Treatment for rabies is only started at the Hospital **NOT** at the Clinic.
- \* You may not be treated as an emergency depending on the severity of wounds.
- \* You will be asked different questions in which all that information will be sent to Environmental Health to follow on the animal.
- \* You will be given a form with different dates when you will have to go to the nearest clinic for other injections.
- \* After seeing a doctor you will be given a letter for your clinic to do wound dressing.

## VI. THINGS TO REMEMBER

- \* Rabies kill
- \* To be safe you need to stick to the dates for follow up injection.
- \* If the clinic is closed on your due date, do not hesitate to go straight to the hospital for your injection immediately. Your life is important—do not wait for the dog owner to give you transport money to the hospital.

- \* You are responsible for your child's treatment and well being.
- \* To ensure that your treatment paper is signed during visit to the clinic or hospital.
- \* There is no treatment for someone who is rabid (showing signs of rabies)

## VII. HUMAN BEING

- \* Severe headache
- \* Salivating
- \* Restless
- \* Vomiting
- \* Sweating
- \* Loss of appetite
- \* Water forbia
- \* Biting scratching
- \* Death within 3 days

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