

Rabies

Almost always FATAL if not treated!!

- **If you were bitten or scratched by an animal or if an animal's saliva contacted your broken skin, mouth or eyes, report the incident to a health care provider. This includes any wild animal, stray, unit mascot or local pet.**
 - Rabid animal's saliva that contacts an area of broken skin, the eyes or mouth can transmit rabies.
 - Rabies can result from contact with brain/nervous system tissue of infected animals.
 - Cases of person-to-person rabies transmission are very rare.
- In many countries, dogs are one of the most important sources in human rabies deaths, however other animals carry rabies as well. In the US most rabies is found in wild animals.
 - Dogs, cats, bats, foxes, skunks, raccoons, and jackals are among the most likely animals to transmit the virus



Rabid Animals



PHOTO: CDC PHIL



PHOTO: U.S. ARMY

You cannot tell whether an animal has rabies by observing its actions.

Both of these dogs have rabies.

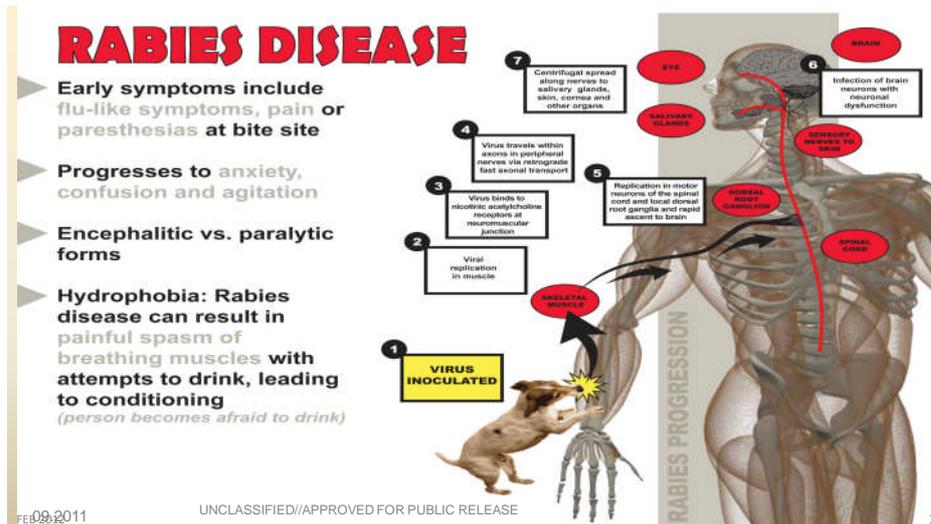
Rabies Disease

- Caused by RNA viruses in the family Rhabdoviridae, genus Lyssavirus
- Virus is transmitted through contact with the saliva of infected, or rabid mammals, such as dogs, cats, bats, skunks, raccoons, foxes, mongooses and jackals
 - Mice, rats and other small rodents are almost never found to be infected with rabies.
 - Larger rodents, such as groundhogs or beavers, can be infected
 - Herd animals, such as horses, cows, etc., can be infected
- In CNS, virus causes acute, progressive encephalomyelitis
- Incubation period: Average 1 to 3 months after untreated exposure
 - Most people who develop rabies do so in 12 months
 - Can be only days; rarely longer than one year after exposure
 - Depends on virus inoculum, distance from CNS and other factors
 - Bites to the head or neck usually have the shortest incubation periods

Rabies

Almost always FATAL if not treated!!

- If you have ANY concerns about any contact with animals, tell your health care provider.
- Treatment is best immediately following the incident but is still effective so long as it's administered before symptoms appear.
- Rabies symptoms may not appear until over a year after an incident, or may occur within weeks.
- Symptoms: weakness, discomfort, fever, headache, irritability
- **By the time symptoms appear, rabies usually cannot be successfully treated.**



Rabies and Deployment

- Although rabies can infect any mammal, mice, rats and other small rodents are almost never found to be infected with rabies. These bites do not require rabies prophylaxis.
- Other than military working dogs, there are no "safe" dogs or cats when deployed.
 - ~10% of animals tested from Afghanistan were positive
- Vets in theater do not routinely vaccinate feral animals

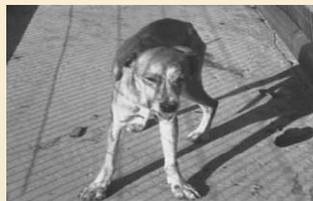
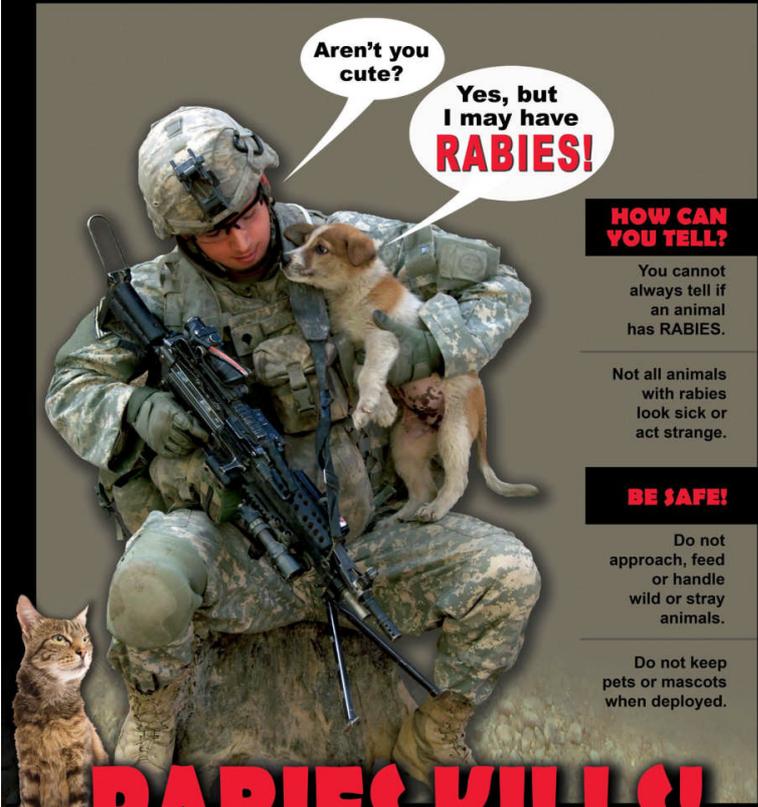


PHOTO: CDC PHIL

A rabid dog, cat, or monkey can look and **behave** normally—even during a veterinary exam. The rabid dog above is calm with advanced disease.

--- DURING DEPLOYMENT ---



HOW CAN YOU TELL?

You cannot always tell if an animal has RABIES.

Not all animals with rabies look sick or act strange.

BE SAFE!

Do not approach, feed or handle wild or stray animals.

Do not keep pets or mascots when deployed.

RABIES KILLS!

If you are **BITTEN** or if an **ANIMAL'S SALIVA** contacts your broken skin, eyes or mouth, immediately wash the area with soap and water and seek medical attention.

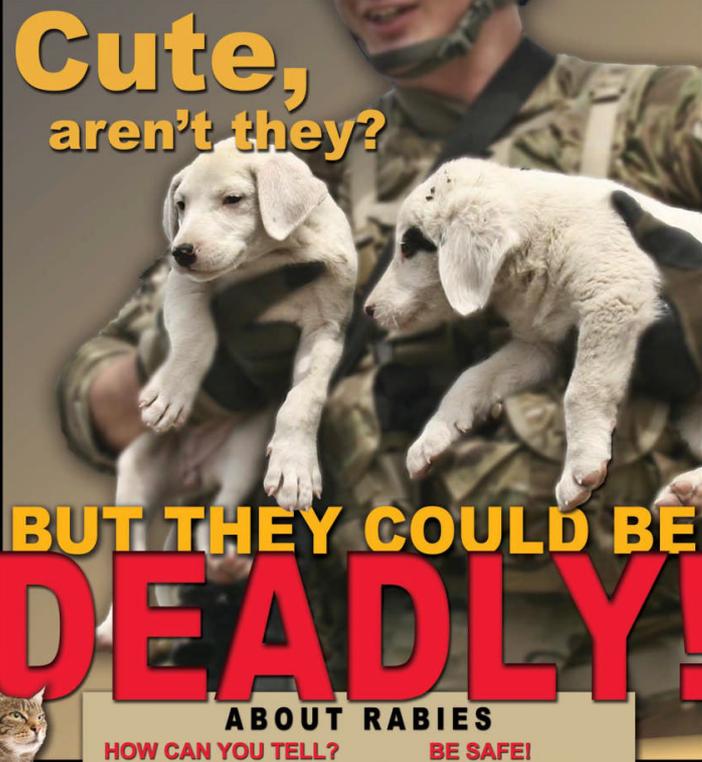
Scan for more information on rabies
<http://phc.amedd.army.mil/rabies>



CP-100-0911



- - - DURING DEPLOYMENT - - -



**Cute,
aren't they?**

**BUT THEY COULD BE
DEADLY!**

ABOUT RABIES

<p>HOW CAN YOU TELL? You cannot always tell if an animal has RABIES.</p> <p>Not all animals with rabies look sick or act strange.</p>	<p>BE SAFE! Do not approach, feed or handle wild or stray animals.</p> <p>Do not keep pets or mascots when deployed.</p>
--	---

If you are BITTEN or if an ANIMAL'S SALIVA contacts your broken skin, eyes or mouth, immediately wash the area with soap and water and seek medical attention.



Scan for more information on rabies
<http://phc.amedd.army.mil/rabies>

CP-101-0911




US ARMY PUBLIC HEALTH COMMAND RABIES INFORMATION SITE

<http://phc.amedd.army.mil/topics/discond/aid/Pages/Rabies.aspx>

US DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS RABIES INFORMATION SITE

<http://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/rabies/index.asp>

US CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION (CDC) RABIES INFORMATION SITE

<http://www.cdc.gov/rabies/>

RABIES AND KIDS

<http://www.cdc.gov/rabiesandkids/>