



Rabies in Virginia

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Overview

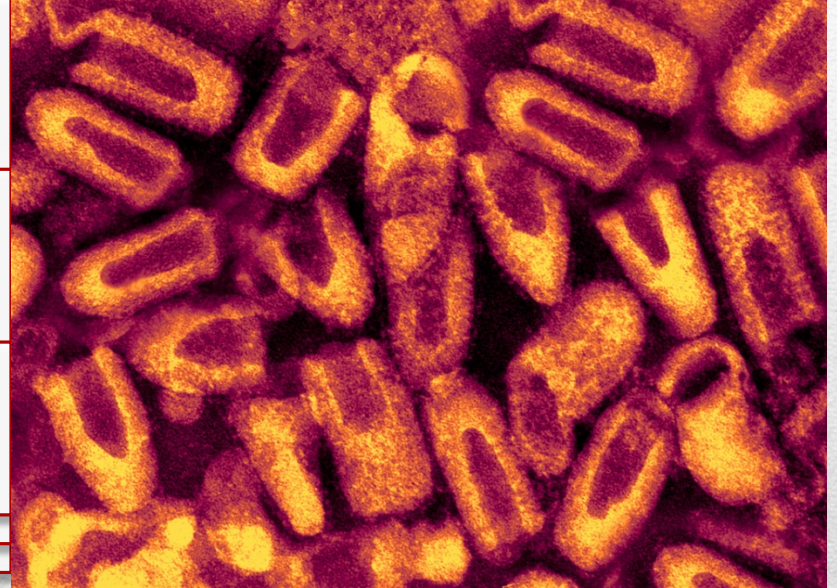


Bullet
shaped

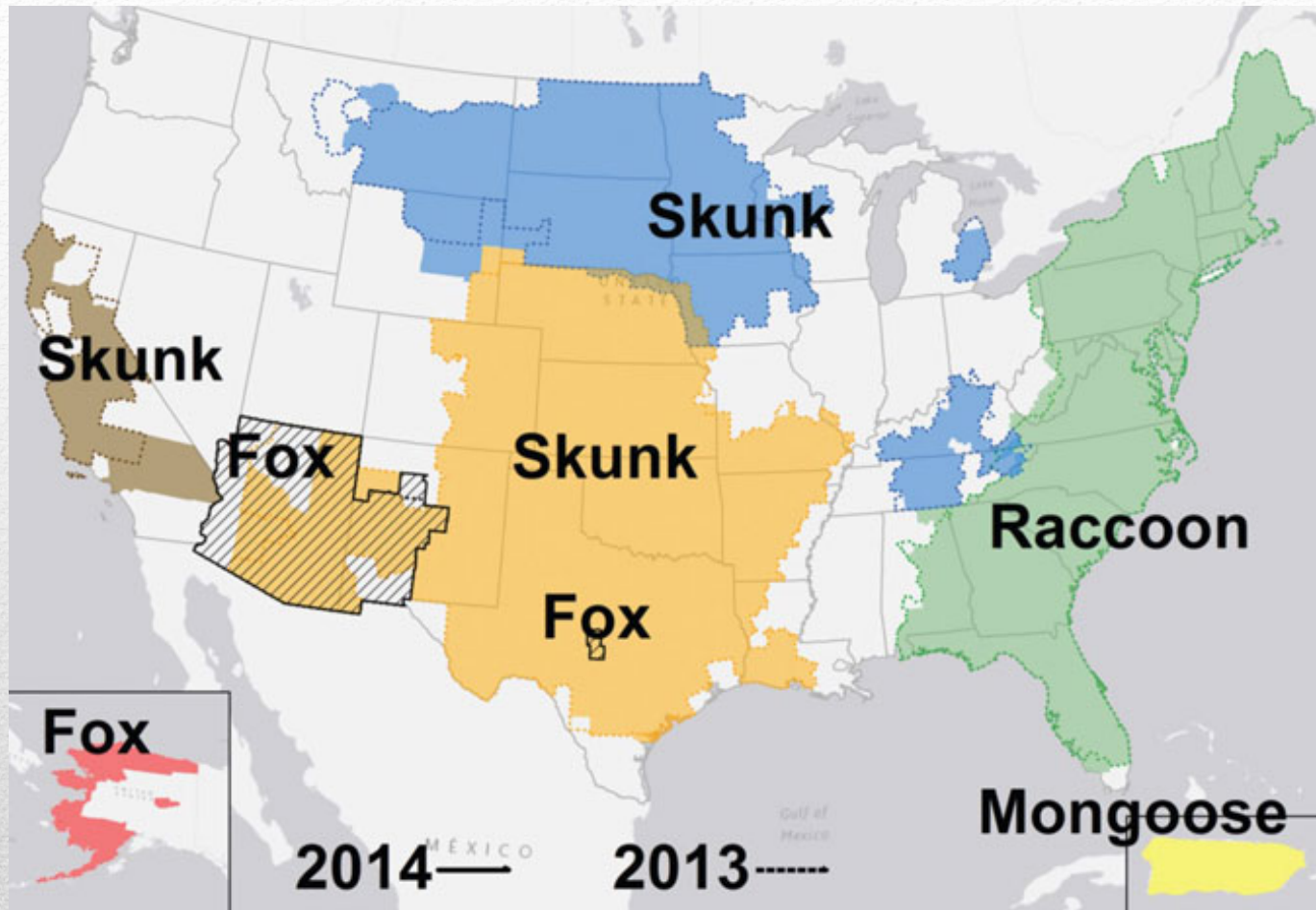
RNA Virus

Variants

- Bat
- Raccoon



Rabies Virus

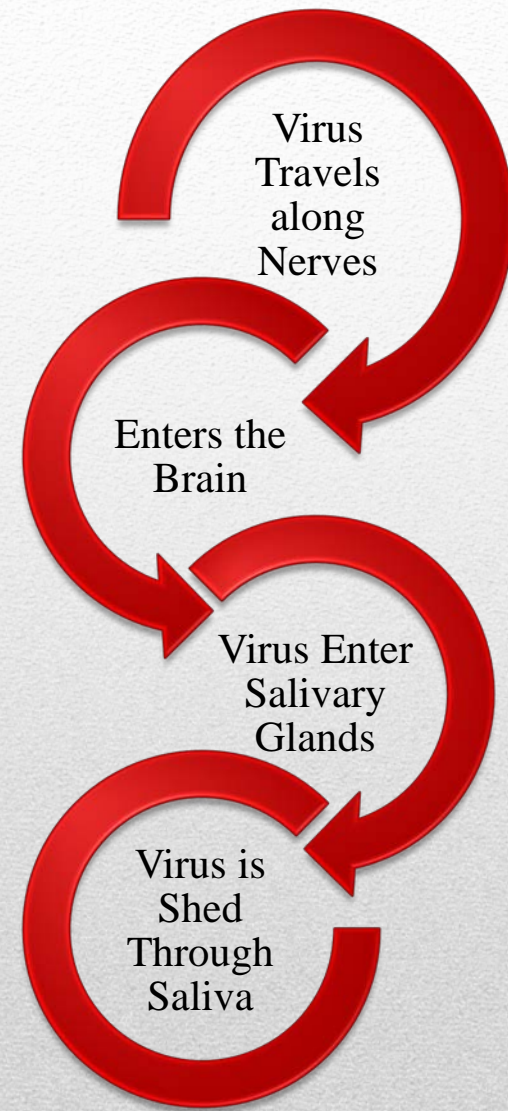


Wildlife Reservoirs



- Bite of an infected animal
- Transmission of Saliva or Nervous Tissue
- NOT Blood, Urine, or Feces

How it Spreads



Mode of Action



Flu-like Symptoms

Hallucinations, Disorientation,
Insomnia

Hydrophobia - Hypersalivation

Partial Paralysis

Signs and Symptoms



- Average 3 cases per year in the United States
- Bat variant accounts for 70% of human cases
- Majority of human cases have no documented animal bite
- Almost always fatal
- Very few have survived
- Milwaukee Protocol – Induced Coma

Human Rabies Cases



Virginia Deaths

- 2009 (dog) - Imported
- 2003 (raccoon) – Northern Virginia man
- 1998 (bat) – Inmate at correctional facility

Rabies in Virginia



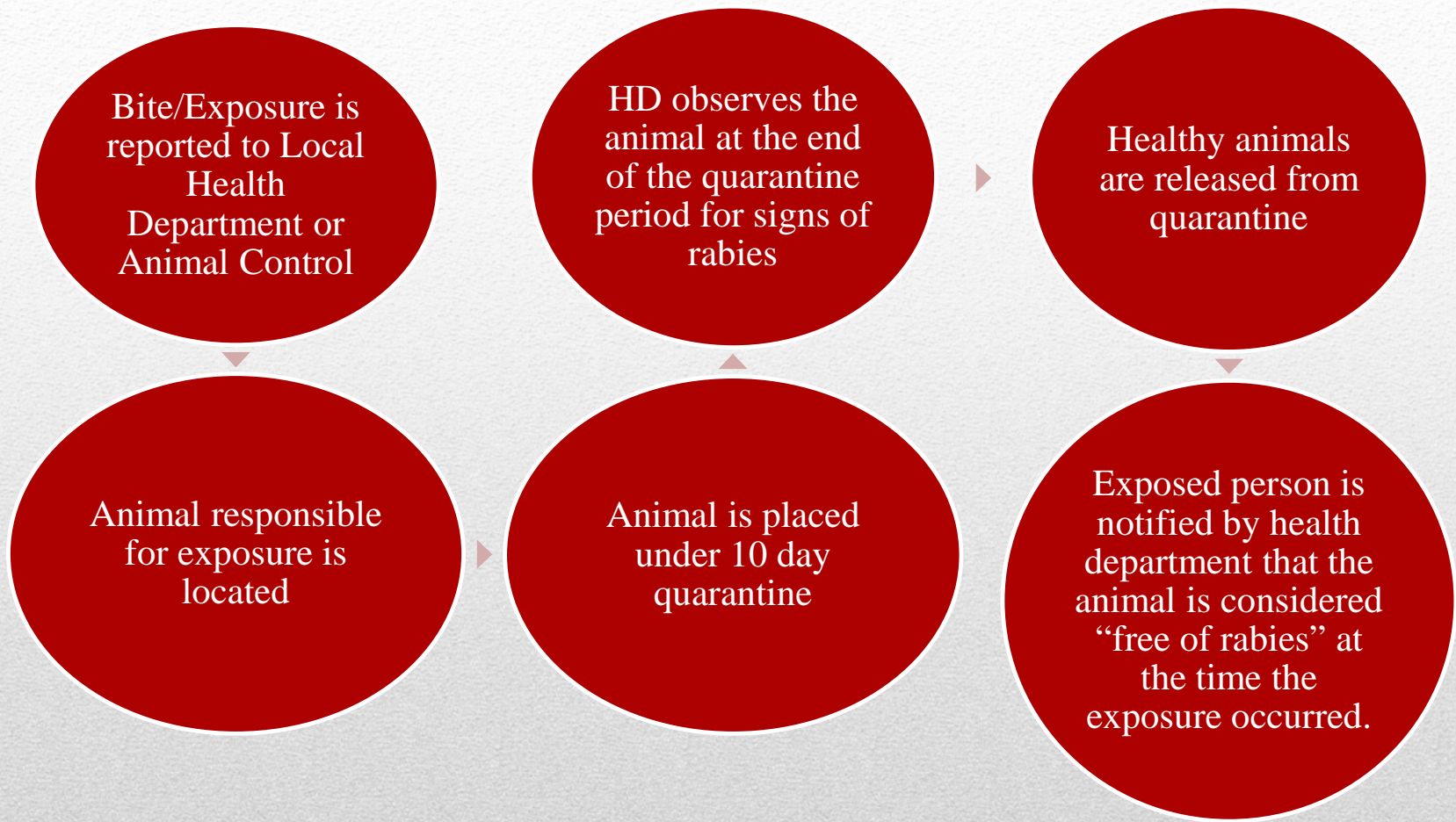


- All dogs, cats, and ferrets, four months of age are required to be vaccinated against rabies



- All animal exposures (bite or scratch, contact with saliva) are to be reported to the local health department

Rabies Prevention Laws



Health Department Investigation



- Vaccinated Dog or Cat exposed to a wild potentially rabid animal
 - 45 Day Quarantine
- Unvaccinated Dog or Cat exposed to a wild potentially rabid animal
 - 6 month Strict Isolation Quarantine

If the animal is available for testing, quarantine length will be determined by lab results.



Domestic Animal vs. Wild Animal

- Any potentially rabid animal involved in a human or domestic animal exposure that can not be quarantined, can be tested for rabies.
- Animal must be involved in an exposure to warrant testing.



Testing



- Investigate approximately 500 animal exposures each year
- Average 1-3 animals test positive for rabies annually.
 - Raccoon
 - Fox
 - Cat



Rabies in Norfolk



Oral Rabies Vaccination Project (ORV)

Began in Virginia in 2002

Targets raccoons in the wild

Baits impregnated with rabies vaccine

Vaccination Zone from Alabama to Maine

Designed to prevent the spread of raccoon rabies west

National Rabies Prevention



Do not feed wildlife



Do not approach, touch, or handle sick or injured wildlife.



Ensure all pets are up to date on their rabies vaccinations.



Report all animal exposures to the Health Department and seek medical attention

How to Protect against Rabies



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Thank you
