Rabies History in Lane County

- Rabies is endemic in Oregon
- Rare in dogs and cats
- No cats had tested positive for rabies
- Dog tested positive in the 1980’s
Background: Rabies Virus

- Family Rhabdoviridae, genus Lyssavirus
- Clinically: acute viral zoonotic disease
- Classical rabies virus only species in U.S.
- Causes 99.9% infections worldwide
- 55,000 people still die yearly from rabies
Lane County EH received a call from a local veterinary clinic reporting a cat bit a veterinary technician
Veterinarian thought this cat was acting abnormal
Local animal control officer thought animal was acting abnormal
The situation surrounding the bite was suspicious.
Owner opted for euthanization and head was shipped to OSPHL
Rabies Transmission

- Spread through saliva from infected animal
- Can also be spread through brain tissue
- Travels via nerves to spinal cord and brain
May 10, 2017

- Dr. DeBess reported positive rabies test for cat
- Follow up with the veterinary clinic and victim was immediately initiated
- Follow up with the animal owner was immediately initiated
- Notification to the LC Communicable Disease
- Information entered into Orpheus
Also Wednesday May 10, 2017
CD Nurse gets a call from EH

- And does some research...
Post-Exposure Rabies Prophylaxis

Rabies Vaccine

RIG

U.S. Vaccine Schedule: 4 doses days 0, 3, 7, 14

RIG infused around wound on day 0
Springfield Animal Control

Coordination

- Consults with local vet clinics
- Consults with Public Health
- Educating the community on the care and laws regarding pets.
Rabies Period of Communicability

- 3-10 days before onset of symptoms
- Studies done in dogs, cat, ferrets
- Usually not >4 days
Back to May 10th….
CD Nurse Interview

- Who needed PERP?
  - Cat owner
  - Vet tech
  - Veterinarian
  - RN followed up to ensure timely completion
Thursday May 11, 2017
Possible Additional Exposures

Veterinary Clinic
- Veterinarian who examined the cat had a scratch but no bite
- Additional vet tech who helped remove the cat from the victims head had no scratches or bites
- Veterinarian who performed the decapitation on the cat had no scratches or bites but was exposed to the cats blood.

Cat Owners Home
- Cat owner had scratches
- Family who visited that weekend prior to the incident no scratches or bite.
Where can you get PERP?

- No, not anatomically.....in Lane County
May 11, 2017, Press Release!

Press Release
- Announced cat tested positive
- Public Health Officer gave a statement about vaccinating animals
- What is rabies
- Symptoms in wildlife
- Bat reservoirs

Talking Points
- Cat had limited exposure to other animals
- This does not mean there is a higher risk of rabies
- Rare in cats and dogs
- Vaccinate your animals
For Immediate Release 5/11/2017

Cat in Lane County tests positive for rabies
Public health officials recommend vaccinating pets, not feeding wild animals

Contact: Devon Ashbridge, public information officer – 541-682-4256

A Springfield cat has tested positive for the rabies virus. While rabies is endemic in Oregon’s bat population, it is rarely seen in cats or other pets.

“All dogs and cats should be vaccinated against rabies,” said Dr. Pat Luedtke, Lane County’s public health officer. “Protecting pets against the disease creates a buffer between humans and wild animals that may carry the disease and limits the potential spread of rabies. In this case the cat was not vaccinated; luckily it had limited exposure to other animals after infection.”

Rabies is a viral disease that affects the nervous system of humans and mammals. It is almost 100 percent fatal once symptoms begin. The virus is carried in the saliva of an infected animal; transmission can occur when that animal bites, or in rare instances, scratches another. Residents should not handle bats with bare hands and should keep their pets’ rabies immunizations up to date. If bitten by a bat or animal suspected of carrying rabies, people should immediately thoroughly clean the bite wound with soap and water and seek medical attention. If possible, the animal should be captured and the event reported to the county health department.

Rabies symptoms in wildlife include lethargy, walking in circles, loss of muscular coordination, convulsions, irritability or aggressiveness, disorientation, excessive drooling of saliva, and showing no fear of humans. Report this type of behavior to Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) at 1-800-720-6339.

Typically, animals acquire rabies by eating or coming in contact with a rabid bat. About 10 percent of the bats tested every year in Oregon have rabies. In 2016, 15 bats tested positive for rabies across Oregon; there were no confirmed cases in other mammals that year. Rabies in other wildlife is rare. However, if you know your pet has encountered a bat or been bitten by a wild animal, contact your veterinarian immediately.

Preventative Recommendations:

- Vaccinate pets (dogs and cats) against rabies.
- Watch wildlife from a distance. Don’t approach or attempt to handle wild animals.
- Do not feed wild animals.
Symptoms of Rabies: “Furious” vs “Dumb”

Furious rabies
Affects 80% of infected people
- Paranoia, terror, hallucinations, and finally, delirium
- Insomnia
- Hydrophobia (fear of water)
  - Over-salivating
  - Difficulty swallowing
  - Extremely painful muscle spasms in throat & larynx
  - Panics at the sight of water
  - Unquenchable thirst
- Hyperactivity
- Death by cardiac arrest

Paralytic rabies
Affects 20% of infected people
- Less dramatic and usually longer course than furious rabies
- Gradual coma
- NO hydrophobia
- Muscle weakness & loss of sensation
- Paralysis
- Death

With info from World Health Organization (WHO)
Cat euthanized in county’s first feline rabies case on record

BY ALISHA ROEMELING
The Register-Guard
APPEARED IN PRINT: FRIDAY, MAY 12, 2017, PAGE A1

SPRINGFIELD — A cat in west Springfield has tested positive for rabies in the first feline infection recorded in Lane County in nearly 60 years, county officials said Thursday.

Lane County spokeswoman Devon Ashbridge said Thursday that the cat was found alive but suffering from symptoms of the disease.

The cat was a family pet that had not been vaccinated, according to the county’s public health officer, Pat Luedtke, who said it was brought into a veterinarian Monday after its owners noticed it had been “acting strangely.”

Luedtke said the veterinarian and other staff members assessed the cat and determined it had contracted rabies. The disease is fatal once the infected animal or human shows rabid symptoms.

The cat was euthanized and sent to the state’s testing center in Portland, where it was determined to be carrying the virus.

The disease is rarely found in pets, and officials used the occasion to urge owners to

Cat tests positive for rabies in Springfield

by News Staff | Thursday, May 11th 2017

SPRINGFIELD, Ore. — A pet cat has been euthanized after testing positive for rabies, Lane County Public Health said Thursday.

“While rabies is endemic in Oregon’s bat population, it is rarely seen in cats or other pets,” the agency said in a statement.
Mass Vax Clinic

- Local veterinary clinics offered low cost rabies vaccination clinics
- One local veterinarian did a press release regarding pet vaccination

Cascade Animal Clinic is offering a $5 rabies vaccine clinic:
901 W Centennial Blvd
Springfield, OR 97477
541-741-1992

Tuesday 5/16/17 5 PM - 7 PM
Wednesday 8 AM - 12 PM
Saturday 1 PM - 3 PM
No appointment needed, walk in, first come, first serve. Cat rabies vaccine and dog rabies vaccine, DHPP and FVRCP available too. All rabies vaccines are $5! Please help keep us to keep your beloved pets safe from rabies.

Willamette Animal Guild $18 rabies vaccines
3045 Royal Ave
Eugene, OR 97402
541-345-3566
http://wagwag.org/services/

Eugene Spay and Neuter Clinic $18 rabies vaccine
W 1st Ave Eugene
OR 97402
541-682-3643 390
Rabies Algorithm: Animal to Animal Contact, 2017

Algorithm for Prevention of Rabies

1. Animal contact with bat or fox:
   - Dog, Cat, Ferret
     - Current rabies vaccine or documentation of previous vaccine?*
       - Yes: Bat or fox available for testing?
         - Yes: Test for rabies at OSU, OVDL
           - Is test positive?
             - Yes: 45-day quarantine and rabies vaccine
             - No: No quarantine
           - No: No quarantine
         - No: No quarantine
     - Livestock
       - Bat or fox available for testing?
         - Yes: Test for rabies at OSU, OVDL
           - Is test positive?
             - Yes: Euthanasia or 4 month quarantine for dogs and cats and 6 month quarantine for ferrets and rabies vaccine
             - No: No quarantine
           - No: Euthanasia
       - Other wildlife
     - Other wildlife
   - Animal contact with other wild animals
     - No quarantine

* Current on vaccines implies having the appropriate documentation such as an actual copy of the rabies certificate. 

QUARANTINE
When quarantine is recommended, strict quarantine is required without outdoor access (dogs may be taken outside and should be on a leash at all times). Human contact should be limited to one person only and no other animals.

Rabies-positive Animals
Oregon, 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Species</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>Lane</td>
<td>1 Cat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>Douglas</td>
<td>1 Bat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>Benton</td>
<td>1 Bat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>Deschutes</td>
<td>1 Bat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>Marion</td>
<td>2 Bats</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Linn</td>
<td>1 Bat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lincoln</td>
<td>1 Bat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Linn</td>
<td>2 Bats</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>Lane</td>
<td>1 Bat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Clackamas</td>
<td>1 Bat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td>Coos</td>
<td>1 Bat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jackson</td>
<td>1 Fox</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Marion</td>
<td>1 Coyote</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wallowa</td>
<td>1 Skunk</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Updated: 10/24/2017
Questions?

Sarah Puls, REHS, MS
Lane County Environmental Health
Sarah.puls@co.lane.or.us
541-682-3753

Heather Young, RN, BS
Lane County Communicable Disease
Heather.young@co.lane.or.us
541-682-8711