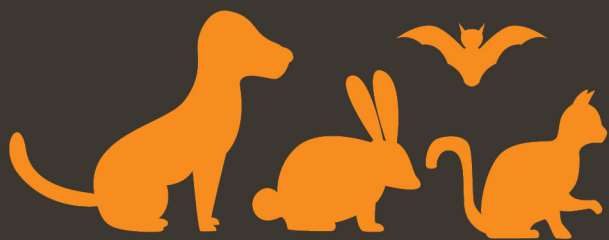


WHAT IS RABIES?

Rabies is a zoonotic disease that infects the nervous system. It is caused by the Rabies virus. Currently there is no cure, but it is easily preventable with vaccination.

RABIES VIRUS

The disease can occur in all mammals, such as humans, dogs, cats, monkeys, squirrels, bats, rats. In Thailand we are most concerned with the dog and secondly the cat.



Rabies can be transmitted to humans by animal biting, scratching or licking an open wound.



DO YOU KNOW...

WHAT THE SYMPTOMS OF AN INFECTED ANIMAL ARE?

Early phase

Symptoms last for 2-3 days, change in behaviour and habits, such as hiding in silence, irritability, dilated pupils, eating less.



Excited phase

Neurological symptoms. Excited, restless, aggression, biting everything, salivation, eating non-food objects like stones or branches. Some animals never go through this phase, but enter the paralysis phase straight after early symptoms.

Paralysis phase

Limb weakness, salivation, unable to balance, falling down and unable to get up, paralysis progresses quickly all over body, death.



SYMPTOMS OF RABIES IN HUMANS

Early phase

Fever, sore throat, headache, loss of appetite, body aches and chills, nausea, vomiting, restlessness.



Neurological phase

Confusion, restlessness, difficulty swallowing, fear of water, aggression. Patients may have seizures and paralysis.

Final phase

Respiratory failure, cardiac arrest, coma, death.

