

# NOTICE

## FIRST AID PROCEDURES FOR ANIMAL BITES

### FOR MEDICAL EMERGENCY, CALL 911 IMMEDIATELY

1. **CONTROL BLEEDING:** Apply continuous pressure for 5-10 minutes. If bleeding is not controlled, seek medical assistance immediately (see #4 below).
2. **CLEANSE WOUND:** Wash all wounds immediately with soap or detergent solution and a high volume of water for at least 5 minutes, 10 minutes if extensive or extremely dirty. Scrub wound enough to make it re-bleed a little to help clean the wound. Primate bites require special care. Scrub with a solution such as chlorhexidine for 15 minutes under high volume of running water.
3. **REPORT BITE:** Report bite to your supervisor or department personnel office.
4. **SEEK MEDICAL FOLLOW-UP:**
  - Employees (including student employees) go to:  
Santa Cruz Occupational Medical Center, 610 Frederick Street, 457-7118  
Hours: 8:30 am-5:30 pm (M-F)
  - Students go to:  
UCSC Student Health Center, McLaughlin Drive, 459-2211  
Hours: 8:30 am-4:30 pm (M,T,Th,F), 9:30 am-4:30 pm (W), 8:30 am-11:30 am (Saturday)
  - Non-UCSC employees and After Hours Care go to:  
Dominican Hospital Emergency Department, 1555 Soquel Drive, 462-7710
5. **NOTIFY COUNTY:** All bites must be reported to the supervisors. All bites must be reported to the County Health Department except for small rodent bites from rodents purchased from approved animal vendors. Required forms are completed at the treating medical facility.

### Other Information

**Dog and Cat Bites:** High frequency of wound infection with Pasteurella and other oral pathogens; likely to require antibiotic treatment.

**Reptiles and Birds:** Possible exposure to bacterial pathogens that sometimes requires antibiotic treatment for deep wounds.

**Laboratory Rodent Bites:** Do not usually cause infection unless very deep bite or unusual pathogen is present.

**Animals with Unexplained Neurological Symptoms:** Check with supervisor and co-workers regarding rabies status of animal; observation period for animal may be necessary if rabies status is unknown.