

ZOONOTIC AND OTHER ANIMAL DISEASES OF CONCERN IN MARYLAND

Table 1. New or Ongoing Morbidity or Mortality Animal or Zoonotic Disease Events

Estimated first onset	Estimated end date	Jurisdiction affected	Species affected	Diagnosis	Estimated # of cases to date	Lead agency	Comment
2013	2013	Maryland	Human	Rabies	1	DHMH	See below
3/12/2013	3/19/2013	Baltimore, Harford Counties	Cat	Rabies	1	DHMH, Baltimore and Harford Counties	See below

For questions regarding specific disease events, please contact the lead agency noted. This contact information is for use by Maryland veterinarians and health professionals:

MDA - Maryland Department of Agriculture: ahops.mda@maryland.gov, 410-841-5810

DHMH - Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Center for Zoonotic and Vector-borne Diseases: dhmh.czvbd@maryland.gov, 410-767-5649

DNR - Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Fish & Wildlife Health Program, FWHP@dnr.state.md.us, 410-226-5193

Human rabies – Maryland, 2013

On March 12, the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene reported the death of a Maryland adult from rabies, marking the state's first case of human rabies since 1976. The patient died approximately three weeks after hospital admission, following rapid progression of neurologic disease. The investigation revealed that the patient had no known animal exposures, the usual source of rabies transmission to humans; however, rabies was determined to have been contracted through solid organ transplantation that occurred 16 months prior to symptom onset. The patient was one of four people who received an organ from the same donor. The remaining three recipients are currently well and receiving rabies post-exposure prophylaxis. CDC is working with public health officials in the five states involved to identify individuals who were in close contact with the initial donor or the four transplant recipients and who may need rabies post-exposure prophylaxis. Sequencing of the rabies virus at the CDC from both the donor and the deceased recipient determined that both the donor and the recipient were infected with raccoon variant rabies virus. In the United States, in the past 50 years, only one other person is reported to have died from raccoon variant rabies virus. Interviews with the donor's family have revealed that the donor had numerous opportunities for interactions with wildlife, including with raccoons.

To report cases of disease in:	Contact:
Domestic animals	MDA Animal Health Program Office 410-841-5810 http://mda.maryland.gov/animalHealth/Pages/Diseases.aspx
Wild animals	MD DNR / USDA Wildlife Service Call Center 1-877-463-6497 http://www.whmn.org/wher/
Humans	DHMH Center for Zoonotic and Vector-borne Diseases 410-767-5649 http://ideha.dhmh.maryland.gov/OIDEOR/CZVBD/SitePages/Home.aspx

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Rabid cat – Baltimore County, March 2013

The Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH), Center for Zoonotic and Vector-borne Disease staff coordinated with Baltimore County and Harford County health officials to investigate a confirmed rabid cat from a feral cat colony in Baltimore County that was trapped by a Harford County resident. The cat was confirmed rabid by the DHMH Rabies Laboratory on March 19, following onset of neurologic signs a week earlier. Coordinated efforts by both county health departments resulted in identification of 18 potentially exposed individuals, including veterinary staff, rescue group workers, and members of the public. Of the 18, nine were recommended to receive rabies post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP), and 12 initiated PEP. Baltimore County health department staff will post door-to-door flyers and notices in the immediate vicinity of the colony to alert residents to the incident and raise awareness of the rabies risk associated with feral cats.

For 2013 to date in Maryland, there have been six confirmed rabid cats. Cats continue to be the most commonly reported confirmed rabid domestic animal, both in Maryland and in the United States. A video of an ataxic cat (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H8fbAFOMTp4>) that presented at a Maryland veterinary clinic earlier this year and was confirmed to be rabid illustrates typical signs of rabies.

Report Marine Mammal and Sea Turtle Strandings

In 1990, the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (MD DNR) created the Marine Mammal and Sea Turtle Stranding Project at the Cooperative Oxford Lab in Oxford, MD. Through 2012, 372 protected, threatened or endangered marine mammals and 523 sea turtles were documented and examined by MD DNR's biologists and wildlife veterinarian. In 2013, we have documented an increased number of strandings on Atlantic Coast beaches including a harbor seal, common dolphin, bottlenose dolphin (2), harbor porpoise (3) and one decomposed carcass of a sea turtle (likely a cold stunned animal from fall 2012).

If you find a live or dead stranded marine mammal (dolphin, porpoise, whale, manatee, seal) or sea turtle please call our 24/7 toll-free hotline **1-800-628-9944**. The staff at the Marine Animal Response Program (National Aquarium) will be contacted and will return your call when a live animal is reported. When dead stranded marine mammals or sea turtles are reported, the MD DNR stranding staff will be contacted and will return your call to get more information including the location and size of the animal and other relevant details.

The National Animal Health Emergency Response Corps

The National Animal Health Emergency Response Corps (NAHERC) was developed in 2001 by the USDA / APHIS to respond to exotic disease outbreaks and other disasters that affect livestock, poultry, and companion animals. NAHERC is a group of "reserve" veterinarians, veterinary technicians, and veterinary students who are willing to take time from their private practices or studies to volunteer for deployment as temporary federal employees in response to animal health emergencies. Applicants must be U. S. citizens and meet educational and other application requirements. For veterinarians, animal health technicians and veterinary students please visit the following web addresses:

Veterinarians: <https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/332776200>

Animal Health Technicians and Veterinary Students: <https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/332757000>

For more information, visit the NAHERC Web site at: http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/emergency_management/naherc.html.

The AVMA Guidelines for the Euthanasia of Animals: 2013

In our continued efforts to supply veterinarians with new resources, the link to "The AVMA Guidelines for the Euthanasia of Animals: 2013 Edition" is provided. It may be helpful, especially when faced with euthanasia of uncommon species: <https://www.avma.org/KB/Policies/Documents/euthanasia.pdf>.

MARYLAND ANIMAL RABIES CASES, 2013

Table 2. New (confirmed since the previous Bulletin) and Cumulative Rabies Cases, Week Ending March 30, 2013

Jurisdiction	Bat Total (New)	Cat Total (New)	Cow Total (New)	Dog Total (New)	Fox Total (New)	Groundhog Total (New)	Raccoon Total (New)	Skunk Total (New)	Other Total (New)	Total (New)
Allegany							3 (3)			3(3)
Anne Arundel							6 (5)			6(5)
Baltimore		1 (1)					4 (1)			5 (2)
Baltimore City	1 (1)						3 (1)			4 (2)
Calvert							2 (2)			2 (2)
Caroline							3 (1)	1		4 (1)
Carroll					1(1)					1(1)
Cecil							1			1 (1)
Charles					2 (2)					2 (2)
Dorchester		1 (1)								1(1)
Frederick		3			2 (1)		4 (2)	1(1)		10(4)
Garrett										
Harford										
Howard							1 (1)			1 (1)
Kent							1 (1)			1 (1)
Montgomery							2			2 (2)
Prince George's							4 (3)			4 (3)
Queen Anne's							3 (1)	1		4 (1)
Somerset										
St. Mary's							1	1 (1)		2 (1)
Talbot										
Washington		1 (1)								1 (1)
Wicomico							2 (2)	1 (1)		3 (2)
Worcester							4 (1)			4 (1)
Total (New)	1 (1)	6 (3)			5(4)		43 (24)	6 (3)		61 (35)

For complete animal rabies data:

<http://ideha.dhmv.maryland.gov/OIDEOR/CZVBD/SitePages/Home.aspx>

To view previous versions of the Maryland One Health Bulletin (MOHB):

<http://mda.maryland.gov/animalHealth/Pages/md-one-health.aspx>

Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene Weekly Public Health and Emergency Preparedness Bulletin:

<http://preparedness.dhmv.maryland.gov/SitePages/Public%20Health%20And%20Emergency%20Preparedness%20Bulletins.aspx>

National Wildlife Health Center New and Ongoing Wildlife Mortality Events Nationwide:

http://www.nwhc.usgs.gov/mortality_events?ongoing.jsp

U.S. Livestock and Poultry Disease Events and Trends:

http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health

Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene Weekly Influenza Report:

<http://ideha.dhmv.maryland.gov/influenza/fluwatch/SitePages/Home.aspx>