



# COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO RABIES TEST REQUISITION

SPACE RESERVED FOR  
PUBLIC HEALTH USE ONLY

<b>SUBMIT ANIMAL FOR BRAIN REMOVAL TO:</b> Vector Disease and Diagnostic Laboratory 5570 Overland Avenue, Suite 102 San Diego, CA 92123 Phone: (858) 694-2888 Hours: Monday-Friday 8:00-5:00 pm	<b>LABORATORY TESTING PERFORMED AT:</b> Public Health Laboratory 5700 Overland Avenue, Suite 103 San Diego, CA 92123 Phone: (619) 692-8500 Hours: Monday-Friday 8:00-5:00 pm
--	---

**PLEASE COMPLETE FORM IN ITS ENTIRETY AND CHECK FOR ACCURACY**

**\*Information required for laboratory testing**

Today's Date:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>SAVE BODY</b>	Requires \$20 fee** and only available for animals weighing less than 40 lbs Animal remains may only be released to a pet cemetery or veterinary facility for private burial or cremation <i>**Fee is subject to change</i>
---------------	--------------------------	------------------	--

**Animal Information**

<input type="checkbox"/> Dog <input type="checkbox"/> Cat <input type="checkbox"/> Bat <input type="checkbox"/> Other, specify below _____	Animal's Name: _____	Breed: _____
Age: _____	Color: _____	Sex: <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown
Spayed/Neutered: <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown		Rabies Vaccine Up-to-Date: <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown

If bat, address/location where initially found: \_\_\_\_\_

<input type="checkbox"/> Deceased   or <input type="checkbox"/> Euthanized	Date Deceased: _____
--	----------------------

*Veterinarian (if applicable) : _____	*Phone: _____	*Fax: _____
---------------------------------------	---------------	-------------

**\*Submitter Information**

<input type="checkbox"/> San Diego County Department of Animal Services <input type="checkbox"/> North <input type="checkbox"/> South <input type="checkbox"/> San Diego Humane Society/Project Wildlife <input type="checkbox"/> San Diego Zoo <input type="checkbox"/> Veterinary Specialty Hospital <input type="checkbox"/> San Diego Zoo Safari Park <input type="checkbox"/> Chula Vista Animal Care Facility <input type="checkbox"/> VCA (indicate location: _____) <input type="checkbox"/> Epidemiology Program (If available, enter contact to the right) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Enter information to the right)	<b>Other</b> Name/Facility: _____ Address: _____ Phone: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____ Epi Contact: _____ Epi Phone: _____
---	--

**Human / Animal Exposure**

Human Exposure: <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	Date of Exposure: _____
If exposed, was victim bitten or was there contact with animal's saliva? <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	

Name of Victim: \_\_\_\_\_

Victim Phone #: _____	Alt Phone #: _____
-----------------------	--------------------

If another pet was exposed, enter species and owner information.	Species Exposed: _____
--	------------------------

Pet Owner's Name: _____	Phone #: _____
-------------------------	----------------

**Other**

Insert animal ID#s below (this will appear on lab result)		Brain Tissue Collection Date: _____	
DAS/Submitter (A#): _____	VCP-VDDL (R#): _____	Brain Condition: <input type="checkbox"/> SAT <input type="checkbox"/> UNSAT	Initials: _____

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_



# Rabies Testing Instructions

The local health officer or designee [local animal control agency] shall be notified when any person is bitten by a mammal (Title 17, California Code of Regulations, §2606). A directory of local animal control agencies is available at <http://www.sddac.com>.

## **Animals Appropriate for Rabies Testing**

- Only mammals are susceptible to rabies.
- Mammals that are at **high risk for rabies** (e.g., bats, skunks, raccoons, foxes, or other wild carnivores) that have bitten or otherwise potentially exposed a human or domestic mammal to rabies should be submitted for testing as soon as possible.
- Mammals under the care of an animal health professional that have bitten or otherwise potentially exposed a human or domestic mammal to rabies **and** that exhibit **signs of rabies** should be promptly submitted for testing, unless the biting animal is at low risk for rabies (see below).
- Mammals at low risk for rabies will not be tested unless approved by the Epidemiology Program. These include small rodents (e.g., rats, mice, hamsters, gerbils, guinea pigs, squirrels, gophers, chipmunks, voles) and lagomorphs (e.g., rabbits, hares, and pikas).
- Questions about animals appropriate for rabies testing may be directed to the Epidemiology Program at 619-692-8499, Mon-Fri 8:00-5:00. On evenings, weekends, and County-observed holidays, call 858-565-5255 and ask for the Epidemiology Program Duty Officer.

## **Domestic Dogs, Cats, and Ferrets**

- Bites from domestic dogs, cats, and ferrets must be reported to your local animal control agency.
- **If the biting animal is healthy**, your local animal control agency will direct its quarantine and daily observation for 10 days following the exposure. Home quarantine is a preferable option if possible. Other options for quarantine are at an approved veterinary facility, boarding facility, or shelter. A directory of local animal control agencies is available at <http://www.sddac.com>.
- **Gravely ill or terminally injured** domestic dogs, cats, and ferrets that have bitten or otherwise potentially exposed a human to rabies may be euthanized as a humane alternative to 10-day observation. The brain of a domestic dog, cat, or ferret that is euthanized or dies prior to completion of the 10-day observation period must be tested for rabies unless an exception is specifically authorized by the public health officer or his/her designee.

## **Rabies Testing**

- If rabies testing is indicated, the animal must first be euthanized and refrigerated (not frozen) and then submitted to the San Diego County Vector Disease and Diagnostic Laboratory (VDDL) for brain extraction. With the exception of very large animals (e.g., horses), the entire carcass will be accepted. VDDL is located at 5570 Overland Ave, San Diego, CA 92123. Hours: Mon-Fri 8:00-5:00. Phone: 858-694-2888.
- Bats that have potentially exposed a human or domestic mammal to rabies may be submitted directly to the Public Health Laboratory after first consulting the Epidemiology Program (619-692-8499).
- The carcasses of animals that test negative for rabies and that weigh less than 40 lbs may be released to a veterinarian or professional animal burial or crematory service for a nominal fee. There is no charge for rabies testing. The carcasses of animals that test positive for rabies will be disposed of in accordance with standard laboratory procedures for biohazardous waste.