Dealing with Animal Bites

Standard Operating Procedure

06/11/18 KM

When an animal bite breaks the skin:

1. Put the animals back in the cage and return the cage to the rack
2. Take the nitrile glove off and put pressure around the wound, forcing it to bleed, if it is not already bleeding
3. Wash the affected area with mild soap and water.
4. Use direct pressure to stop bleeding if necessary.
5. Apply chlorhexidine solution, located on all changing stations or Oxivir in all spray bottles or hand dispensers. If bleeding apply a clean bandage that will not stick to the wound from the safety cabinet in the entry way in the vivarium.
6. Locate your P.I. or Supervisor and inform them of the incident. On a computer go to BYU Risk Management at risk.byu.edu. Under Quick Links select Injury, Incident, and Claim Reporting.
7. Fill out the form completely.
8. Email your faculty supervisor, Department Safety Coordinator, College Safety Coordinator (801-422-6875), and/or Risk Management & Safety (801-422-4468) of the incident.
   1. Proceed to Urgent Care at the BYU Student Health Center (1750 N Wymount Terrace Drive, Provo, UT 84604) for evaluation and follow-up. Student Health Center Urgent Care is open from 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.
   2. If the incident occurs after-hours or on the weekend, go directly to an afterhours Care Center.
9. The supervisor will receive from Risk Management an email asking how the Bite or injury could have been avoid in the future. Fill out the question and submit it to Risk Management.
10. Apply the methods to avoid being bitten again.