Australian Bat Lyssavirus (Potential Exposure)

Australian bat lyssavirus is closely related but not identical to classical rabies virus. All bites, scratches and mucous membrane exposures from all bats, regardless of the bat's clinical status, should be managed as potential exposures.

**Bat or flying fox bite or scratch or mucosal exposure to saliva?**

- **Immediately** wash wound/s well with soap and water gently for at least 5 minutes
- Apply an iodine or alcohol based antiseptic solution if available
- Check vaccination status for tetanus

**Client details**

- Previously vaccinated with rabies vaccine?
- Weight?
- Client contact details?

**Urgently seek advice from public health unit**

**Bat or Flying Fox**

- To be retained for testing if available
- To be handled by rabies-vaccinated bat handlers only.

**Post Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP)**

- Administer rabies immunoglobulin and rabies vaccine as instructed by public health unit (PHU)
- Further information is available in the current edition of *The Australian Immunisation Handbook* or from the PHU
- Complete VIVAS Vaccination Record Form for vaccines administered