The rabies virus is passed to humans through the saliva of rabid animals. Exposures of concern include bites, scratches, and licks on the eyes, mouth, or open wounds from infected animals.

It can take just a few days to more than a year to develop symptoms, at which point it is too late for treatment.

Call the Gambell Clinic immediately if you think you have been exposed at (907) 985-5031.

RABIES IS 100% FATAL IF NOT TREATED RIGHT AWAY
Signs of rabies in animals include:

- Sudden behavioral changes such as acting very tired, aggression, excessive drooling, problems swallowing, vomiting, trouble moving normally, paralysis, and seizures.

If your pet begins to exhibit these behaviors, it needs to be put down immediately. In case testing is needed, do not shoot the animal in the head. If a wild animal is acting strange, report it to the VPOs.

To make a report, call the Gambell Clinic at (907) 985-5031 or the Office of Environmental Health at (907) 434-0543 or (907) 434-1659.
All dogs and cats should be vaccinated against rabies after they are 3 months old. This is the most effective way to prevent the spread of the virus.

Contact your local rabies Lay Vaccinator (LV) to schedule a shot. Local LVs in Gambell are: Deborah Apatiki, Michael Klinger, and Chanelle Koonooka

To keep pets safe and reduce dog bites, all dogs should be kept tied up. Unvaccinated dogs that were exposed should be put down immediately.

For questions, call the Office of Environmental Health at (907) 434-0543 or (907) 434-1659.