


# First Aid for Laboratory Rodent Bites & Scratches Guidelines

As part of the local area induction, all staff and students must be made aware of the location of First Aid kits and a list of local First Aiders.

Rodent Bite/Scratch First Aid:

1. Wash wound with soap and water immediately. There is no need to encourage the wound to bleed.
2. Cover broken wound with dressing. Further wound management may be required <sup>1</sup>.
3. Seek medical attention. Ensure your tetanus booster is up to date. Notify the treating medical clinician as vaccination(s) may be required.
4. Follow the incident reporting guide as indicated by the table below:

## First Aid Documentation and Incident Reporting

| Documentation  | Reporting Process   |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <a href="#">First Aid Report Form (hardcopy)</a></li> <li>▪ <a href="#">First Aid Report Online Form (e-Form)</a></li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ First Aider is to complete the First Aid Report Form</li> <li>▪ First Aider must record all treatment provided</li> <li>▪ First Aid Report Forms are available in First Aid kits or from the <a href="#">OHS website</a></li> <li>▪ First Aid Report Form must be forwarded to the Occupational Health Team for retention               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Email: <a href="mailto:BPD-OHNC@monash.edu">BPD-OHNC@monash.edu</a></li> <li>• Internal mail:<br/>26 Research Way<br/>Clayton VIC 3800</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ First Aid Report e-Forms can be accessed via the <b>QR code</b> on the First Aid kit or from the <a href="#">OHS website</a></li> </ul> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Online Hazard &amp; Incident Report via <a href="#">S.A.R.A.H.</a></li> </ul>  <p><b>Incident/Hazard Register</b><br/>View and manage reported Incidents/Hazards</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The casualty or supervisor must lodge an Incident report as soon as practicable. Note: anyone can enter a report in behalf of the casualty if they are not able to do so</li> <li>▪ Safety Officers can provide assistance with submitting reports via <a href="#">S.A.R.A.H.</a></li> </ul>   |

Staff who handle rodents must have completed a course in handling and restraint, which can be booked through myDevelopment.

## Reference documents:

- [First Aid Procedure](#)
- [Using Biologicals and Animals Procedure](#)

<sup>1</sup> Before undertaking work with rodents, review the Risk Assessment(s) associated with the rodent model that caused the bite (e.g. was the animal injected with a carcinogen, pathogen or infectious agent) to determine if further first aid treatment is required (e.g. betadine/chlorhexidine wash).