

# Australian bat lyssavirus

[Fact sheet](http://conditions.health.qld.gov.au/HealthConditions/2/Infections-Parasites/41/Viral-Infections/752/Australian-Bat-Lyssavirus) [http://conditions.health.qld.gov.au/HealthConditions/2/Infections-Parasites/41/Viral-Infections/752/Australian-Bat-Lyssavirus] - Health conditions directory.

[Australian bat lyssavirus](https://www.health.qld.gov.au/communicablediseases/documents/bat-injured-sick.pdf) [https://www.health.qld.gov.au/communicablediseases/documents/bat-injured-sick.pdf] (PDF, 281kB) - information for people who have found a sick or injured bat.

Australian bat lyssavirus (ABLV) is a virus that can be transmitted from bats to humans, causing serious illness. The virus was first identified in 1996 and has been found in four kinds of flying foxes/fruit bats and one species of insect-eating microbat. Blood tests have shown previous infection in a number of other bat species, so it is assumed that any bat in Australia could carry the virus.

## Public health management guidelines

- Read [Communicable Diseases Network Australia guidelines](http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/cdna-song-abvl-rabies.htm) [http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/cdna-song-abvl-rabies.htm]

## Notification

### Pathology laboratories

- [Notification criteria for pathology laboratories](http://www.health.qld.gov.au/cdcg/documents/notif-criteria-guide.pdf) [http://www.health.qld.gov.au/cdcg/documents/notif-criteria-guide.pdf] (PDF, 55kB)
- [Communications](http://www.health.qld.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/cdna-song-abvl-rabies.htm#toc06) [http://www.health.qld.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/cdna-song-abvl-rabies.htm#toc06] (notifications procedure)

### Attending medical practitioners/medical superintendents (or delegates)

In Queensland, **potential exposure** to Lyssavirus is notifiable by the treating medical officer.

### Notification resources

- List of all [Pathological, clinical and provisional diagnosis notifiable conditions](https://www.health.qld.gov.au/clinical-practice/guidelines-procedures/diseases-infection/notifiable-conditions/list/default.asp) [https://www.health.qld.gov.au/clinical-practice/guidelines-procedures/diseases-infection/notifiable-conditions/list/default.asp]
- List of [Public Health Unit](https://www.health.qld.gov.au/system-governance/contact-us/contact/public-health-units/default.asp) [https://www.health.qld.gov.au/system-governance/contact-us/contact/public-health-units/default.asp] contacts
- [Notifiable conditions report form for Queensland clinicians \(PHA S70\)](https://www.health.qld.gov.au/publications/clinical-practice/guidelines-procedures/diseases-infection/notif-conditions-rpt.pdf) [https://www.health.qld.gov.au/publications/clinical-practice/guidelines-procedures/diseases-infection/notif-conditions-rpt.pdf] (PDF, 48kB) - if faxing notification, follow-up by phone.

## Enhanced surveillance for public health units

- [Case report form](https://www.health.qld.gov.au/cdcg/documents/cr-abl.pdf) [https://www.health.qld.gov.au/cdcg/documents/cr-abl.pdf] (potential exposure) (PDF, 175kB) - used by public health units to collect and manage more detailed information for enhanced case surveillance.

## Clinical guidelines

- [Flowchart](https://www.health.qld.gov.au/cdcg/documents/australian-bat-lyssavirus-flowchart.pdf) [https://www.health.qld.gov.au/cdcg/documents/australian-bat-lyssavirus-flowchart.pdf] (PDF, 60kB) - quick reference chart for immediate management of potential exposures to Australian bat lyssavirus.

## Resources for health professionals

### Immunisation

- [Australian immunisation handbook](http://www.immunise.health.gov.au/internet/immunise/publishing.nsf/Content/Handbook10-home-handbook10part4) [http://www.immunise.health.gov.au/internet/immunise/publishing.nsf/Content/Handbook10-home-handbook10part4] - clinical guidelines for health professionals on the safest and most effective use of vaccines in their practice.

### Related information

- [Guideline for the collection and transport of Category 3 \(C3\) bats](https://www.health.qld.gov.au/cdcg/documents/guideline-collect-c3-bats.pdf) [https://www.health.qld.gov.au/cdcg/documents/guideline-collect-c3-bats.pdf] (397kB) - outlines the agreed approach for the collection, euthanasia and transportation of Category 3 (C3) bats to Forensic and Scientific Services for testing.

URL: <http://disease-control.health.qld.gov.au/condition/687/australian-bat-lyssavirus>

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- [Specimen submission form](https://www.health.qld.gov.au/cdcg/documents/cat3-bats-form.pdf) [https://www.health.qld.gov.au/cdcg/documents/cat3-bats-form.pdf] (PDF, 43kB) - request for category 3 bats Australian bat lyssavirus testing.
- [Bats and human health](http://conditions.health.qld.gov.au/HealthCondition/condition/14/33/14/Bats-human-health) [http://conditions.health.qld.gov.au/HealthCondition/condition/14/33/14/Bats-human-health] – Queensland Health website which provides links to fact sheets and other resources.
- [Safe bat handling, WorkCover Queensland](https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/agriculture/workplace-hazards/diseases-from-animals#lyssavirus) [https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/agriculture/workplace-hazards/diseases-from-animals#lyssavirus]