Bat Encounters in Campus Housing

What should I do?

1. Contact Campus Safety 7770 – **Do not try to capture the bat yourself!**

2. Notify the Campus Safety Officer if anyone in the residence has:
   - Had physical contact with the bat
   - Awoke to find the bat in their bedroom

3. Campus Safety will attempt to safely capture the bat and see that it is properly sent for rabies testing.

When do I Need to go to the Emergency Department?

1. If the bat has been captured for testing, and the rabies test result **will not return within 48 – 72 hours**, then the patient should report to the ER for assessment and possible treatment. Students may choose to seek ER care immediately if they are concerned!

2. If the test result indicates the bat is infected with rabies virus – then the patient needs to report to the Emergency Room immediately and relay this information!

3. If the bat cannot be captured for rabies testing – you should report to Holland Hospital ER if:
   - You had physical contact with the bat.
   - You awoke with a bat in your bedroom.

The ER doctor will determine if rabies post-exposure therapy should be done. This decision may be based on type of exposure, animal exposed to, information from the geographic area, and possible consultation with state or local health departments.