



Frederick County Health Department

Size: 350 staff
Population served: ~ 240,000



Quality Improvement Story Board for: Rabies Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP)

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Plan

Identify an Opportunity and Plan for Improvement

1. Getting Started

Communicable Disease Program (CD) and Environmental Health (EH) noted an increase in the incidents of campers and counselors at Camp A requiring Rabies Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP). This was due to either a known or potential exposure to bats that were not safely contained and submitted for testing for the rabies virus. Prior to the significant increase in 2015 the last event occurred in 2008.

2. Assemble the Team

It was determined that the issue impacted both EH and CD staff and a team was established. A grant was obtained from the Public Health Foundation (PHF) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to provide QI technical support for the project.



Develop AIM Statement

Prevent unnecessary implementation of Rabies PEP by developing and implementing an outreach educational program for camp staff and campers focusing on bat management for at least one residential camp during the 2016 camp season.

3. Examine the Current Approach

CD sends out an educational packet annually, generally in the month of May, to all camps located in Frederick County. This is a passive method of providing a significant amount of information regarding services of EH, CD & Frederick County Animal Control (AC). It would be easy for camp staff to not review the information and therefore not pass valuable information to other camp staff and campers.

4. Identify Potential Solutions

An active approach for education was needed. CD & EH developed a PowerPoint educational training to be implemented in person at Camp A. The training was designed for both camp staff and campers and could be utilized at other camps.

5. Develop an Improvement Theory

If we educate camp staff and campers, then we will decrease the unnecessary implementation of Rabies PEP. A pre & post assessment will be developed to measure knowledge prior to and following the educational presentation. If successful, the following will be noted:

- ◆ Increased scores on the post assessments.
- ◆ Incidents involving a bat will be handled properly resulting in a decrease in camp staff & campers unnecessarily requiring rabies PEP.

Do

Test the Theory for Improvement

6. Test the Theory

In June 2016, CD and EH staff provided a one hour bat management training at Camp A for 24 counselors and 1 camp manager. A pre & post assessment was given to all participants.

Study

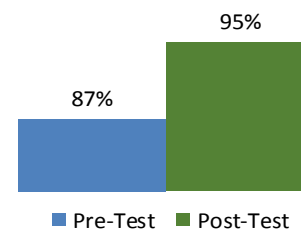
Use Data to Study Results of the Test

7. Study the Results

Through this project we were able to:

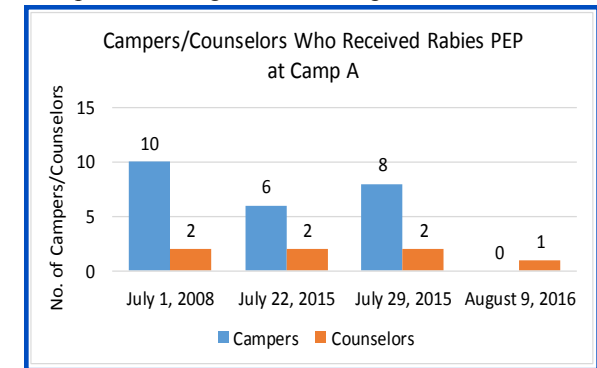
- ◆ Demonstrate that knowledge about rabies & how to deal with a bat inside a living facility increased in 76% of staff, with an average increase of 8% in the post training test score.

Average Pre-Test and Post-Test Scores



- ◆ Demonstrate that staff could correctly contain a bat while avoiding contact with the bat until it could be safely removed.

- ◆ Demonstrate a significant decrease in the number of persons unnecessarily starting PEP at Camp A from eighteen (18) persons during the 2015 camp season compared to one (1) person during the 2016 camp season.



Act

8. Decide next steps: Adopt, Adapt, or Abandon

We have determined that this educational program was an effective method of delivering information and the pre & post assessments were good tools to measure knowledge.

We plan to offer this educational program to other Frederick County Camps in 2017.

9. Establish Future Plans

We will share the training materials and project storyboard with the PHF. In 2017, we hope to provide the training with Neighborhood Advisory Committees, DHMH and Frederick City Cable TV.

