Rabies

Presentation: Recent history of bite wound

3 Basic forms (extremely variable)
   1. Cerebral (furious)
   2. Brainstem (dumb)
   3. Spinal cord (paralytic)

DDX: The kitchen sink - anything causing behavioral changes & multifocal neuro deficits

Test(s) of choice:
   - Direct and indirect IFA
     - Brain stem, cerebellum
     - Shipped COLD
   - Histopathology-VARIABLE
     - Mononuclear infiltration, perivascular cuffing, lymphocytic foci
     - Babes nodules, Negri bodies - intracytoplasmic inclusions (NOT pathognomonic)
   - Immunohistochemistry – more sensitive than histopathology

Prevention / Control:
   NORTH AMERICA: Wildlife = reservoir. Pet immunization; Minimize pet-wildlife contact.
   WORLDWIDE: Rabid DOGS cause 99% of human rabies deaths worldwide
     - Mostly in Africa, Asia, Latin America
     - Successful rabies control focuses on DOGS

Pearls: Lyssavirus, Rhabdoviridae (Vesicular stomatitis virus is also a rhabdovirus)

Classic Question(s)

What is difference between the reservoirs species for rabies in North America compared to most developing countries? Why the difference?

Name 3 key tests for rabies, and an important preparation step for shipping lab specimens.

What are two broad clinical indicators for a potential diagnosis of suspected rabies?

What kind of virus is rabies? (family and genus)

Vesicular stomatitis virus (related family), occurs in what species most commonly and why is that important? (more than one species-name them all)