

Paralyzed man's dog gnaws off his toes

by UPI

LEXINGTON, Ky. - A paralyzed man in Lexington, Ky., was hospitalized after he noticed his pit bull partially bit off his toes while he was sleeping, officials said. Terry Smith, who has been paralyzed below the waist for years, woke up Tuesday morning to discover his puppy had "chewed off four tips of his toes," the Lexington (Ky.) Herald-Leader reported Wednesday. He was taken to St. Joseph Hospital, and the approximately 5- or 6-month old dog, China, was put into isolation by Lexington Animal Control officials. "The animal appears to be in great health, and we have no reason to believe there's any kind of abuse," an Animal Control official said. Smith's injuries were first noticed by his friend Tim Cantrell, who said he saw blood on Smith's bed before realizing what had happened. The friend claimed the dog was not aggressive. A neighbor said she had seen Smith in the past leave dogs out of doors in severe temperatures with no food in.

© 2008 United Press International. All Rights Reserved.

Paralyzed man's dog gnaws off his toes by UPI