



Alaska Division of Public Health

Prevention Promotion Protection

RABIES POST-EXPOSURE PROPHYLAXIS TREATMENT SHEET

Patient name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

1. Post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) consists of **both** antibody (Human Rabies Immune Globulin or HRIG) and human rabies vaccine (Imovax® or RabAvert®) with one exception: persons previously immunized require treatment with **only** human rabies vaccine.
2. The dose of HRIG is 20 I.U./kg body weight. MOST HRIG contains 150 I.U./cc; check your product first. HRIG should be given as soon as possible after the incident; however, **HRIG is not indicated if more than 7 days have passed since the first dose of human rabies vaccine was given.** As much as anatomically feasible of the HRIG should be infiltrated into and around the wound or bite. The remainder (if any) should be given by intramuscular injection at an anatomical site distant from vaccine administration.

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 \underline{\hspace{2cm}} & \text{lbs} & \times & \frac{0.454 \text{ kg}}{1 \text{ lb}} & \times & \frac{20 \text{ I.U.}}{1 \text{ kg}} & \times & \frac{1 \text{ cc}}{150 \text{ I.U.*}} & = & \underline{\hspace{2cm}} & \text{cc} \\
 \text{Patient weight} & & & & & & & & & \text{Volume HRIG} &
 \end{array}$$

**double check the product potency before calculating.*

3. **For immunocompetent persons without a history of previous immunization with rabies vaccine, four doses of vaccine are required,** 1.0 ml each, given intramuscularly in the deltoid region (or anterolateral thigh for infants and small children). The first dose should be given as soon as possible after the exposure. Day 0 is the day that the first dose of human rabies vaccine is given; additional doses should be given on each of days 3, 7, and 14 after the first dose. **Human rabies vaccine should never be given in the gluteal area** as studies have shown this may result in lower neutralizing antibody titers.
4. For **persons previously immunized** (i.e., history of a 3-dose pre-exposure series or a post-exposure series), **only human rabies vaccine should be given and only on days 0 and 3.**
5. Immunosuppressive agents should not be administered during PEP unless essential for the treatment of other conditions. **When PEP is administered to an immunosuppressed person, a 5th dose of vaccine is indicated on day 28.** It is also recommended that serum be tested for rabies neutralizing antibody after the series is completed to ensure that an acceptable response has developed. Consultation with CDC Rabies Branch (404-639-1050) is recommended on a case-by-case basis if there are concerns about how a person's current disease process or medications might impact the scheduling of PEP and subsequent titers.
6. **It is critical that each dose of human rabies vaccine be given as scheduled.** Health care providers must make certain that patients are not lost to follow-up. Consultation can be obtained from the Section of Epidemiology at (907) 269-8000 during business hours or 1-800-478-0084 after hours.

		Lot #	Date Due	Date Given	Provider
HRIG	Full dose (day 0)	_____	_____	_____	_____
Imovax® or RabAvert®	1st dose (day 0)	_____	_____	_____	_____
	2nd dose (day 3)	_____	_____	_____	_____
	3rd dose (day 7)	_____	_____	_____	_____
	4th dose (day 14)	_____	_____	_____	_____
ONLY give if immunosuppressed	5th dose (day 28)	_____	_____	_____	_____