RABIES POSTEXPOSURE PROPHYLAXIS (PEP): ASSESSMENT ALGORITHM

Was the patient bitten or was there saliva contact from the animal to an open wound or mucous membrane of the patient?  

If YES, what kind of animal?  

- Small rodent (squirrel, hamster, guinea pig, gerbil, chipmunk, rat, mouse)  
- Lagomorph (rabbit, hare)  

Rabies PEP NOT advised.

Dog, cat, or domestic ferret  

Is animal’s location known?  

If possible, look for the animal for 72 hours before starting rabies PEP.

If NO, consult with the OSDH Acute Disease Service Epidemiologist-on-Call about rabies risk at (405) 271-4060. Rabies PEP can still be provided even if 72 hours has passed from the time of the bite.

If YES, test for rabies. Rabies PEP is not indicated pending test results.

- Skunk, fox, bat or other wild carnivore  

Is the animal’s location known?  

If NO, consult with the OSDH Acute Disease Service Epidemiologist-on-Call about rabies risk at (405) 271-4060. Rabies PEP can still be provided even if 72 hours has passed from the time of the bite.

If YES, test for rabies. Rabies PEP is not indicated pending test results.

- Farm animal (cow, sheep, pig, horse, goat)  
- Exotic animal (tiger, bear, or monkey)  

Does animal show sign of rabies?  

If NO, consult with the OSDH Acute Disease Service Epidemiologist-on-Call about rabies risk at (405) 271-4060. Rabies PEP can still be provided even if 72 hours has passed from the time of the bite.

If YES, test for rabies. Rabies PEP is not indicated pending test results.

- Small rodent (squirrel, hamster, guinea pig, gerbil, chipmunk, rat, mouse)  
- Lagomorph (rabbit, hare)  

Rabies PEP NOT advised.

Contact local animal control or county health department. PEP should not be initiated unless animal develops rabies during 10 day observation period.

Rabies PEP recommended  

See the other side of this document or call the OSDH Acute Disease Service Epidemiologist-on-Call at (405) 271-4060 (available 24/7/365).

Rabies PEP is NOT indicated.

Contact county health department. PEP should not be initiated unless animal develops rabies during 30 day observation period.

* Bats pose particular risks and rabies transmission has occurred in the absence of a recognized bite. Therefore, every effort should be made to capture and test the bat involved in the exposure incident. If the patient can provide adequate history that no direct exposure occurred, then no treatment is necessary. If the patient is an unobserved child, or a person who was asleep, intoxicated, or mentally challenged, then PEP may be indicated. Consult w/ the OSDH Acute Disease Service Epidemiologist-on-Call by calling (405) 271-4060 (available 24/7/365).
### RABIES BIOLOGICS FOR POSTEXPOSURE PROPHYLAXIS, UNITED STATES, 2012

#### Human Rabies Vaccine
Rabies Vaccine, human diploid cell vaccine (HDCV)
- Intramuscular... Imovax®Rabies
  - Manufacturer: Sanofi Pasteur
  - Phone: 800-822-2463
  - [http://www.sanofipasteur.us/sanofi-pasteur2/](http://www.sanofipasteur.us/sanofi-pasteur2/)

Rabies vaccine, purified chicken embryo cell (PCECV)
- Intramuscular... Rabavert®
  - Manufacturer: Novartis Vaccines and Diagnostics
  - Phone: 800-244-7668
  - [www.novartisvaccines.com](http://www.novartisvaccines.com)

#### Rabies Immune Globulin (RIG)
Rabies immune globulin, human (HRIG)
- Intraganglionic... Imogam®Rabies - HT
  - Manufacturer: Sanofi Pasteur
  - Phone: 800-822-2463
  - [http://www.sanofipasteur.us/sanofi-pasteur2/](http://www.sanofipasteur.us/sanofi-pasteur2/)

- Intratumoral... HyperRab™ S/D
  - Manufacturer: Talecris Biotherapeutics
  - Phone: 800-243-4153
  - [www.talecris-pi.info](http://www.talecris-pi.info)

### RABIES POSTEXPOSURE PROPHYLAXIS SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vaccination Status</th>
<th>Treatment</th>
<th>Regimen*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Not Previously Vaccinated</td>
<td>Local wound cleansing</td>
<td>All postexposure treatment should begin with immediate thorough cleansing of all wounds with soap and water. If available, an antiseptic agent such as a povidone-iodine solution should be used to irrigate the wounds.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>HRIG</td>
<td>20 IU/kg body weight on day 0. If anatomically feasible, the full dose should be infiltrated around the wound(s) and any remaining volume should be administered IM at an anatomical site distant from vaccine administration. Also, HRIG should not be administered in the same syringe as vaccine. Because HRIG may partially suppress active production of antibody, no more than the recommended dose should be given.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Vaccine</td>
<td>HDCV or PCEC 1.0 ml, IM (deltoid area±), one dose on days 0, 3, 7, and 14.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Note:</td>
<td>Vaccine</td>
<td>HDCV or PCEC 1.0 ml, IM (deltoid area±), one dose on days 0, 3, 7, 14, and 28, followed by antibody testing to confirm acceptable antibody response.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Previously Vaccinated Δ | Local wound cleansing | All postexposure treatment should begin with immediate thorough cleansing of all wounds with soap and water. If available, an antiseptic agent such as a povidone-iodine solution should be used to irrigate the wounds. |
| Δ Any person with a history of pre-exposure vaccination with HDCV or PCECV; prior postexposure prophylaxis with HDCV, RVA, or PCEC; or previous vaccination with any other type of rabies vaccine and a documented history of antibody response to the prior vaccination. |
| HRIG | HRIG should not be given. |
| Vaccine | HDCV or PCEC 1.0 ml, IM (deltoid area±), one dose on days 0 and 3. |

* These regimens are applicable for all age groups, including children.
± The deltoid area is the only acceptable site of vaccination for adults and older children. For younger children, the outer aspect of the thigh may be used. Vaccine should never be administered in the gluteal area.

### For further information, call or visit us on the World Wide Web.
**Acute Disease Service**
**Oklahoma State Department of Health**
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