



Arkansas Department of Health

4815 West Markham Street • Little Rock, Arkansas 72205-3867 • Telephone (501) 661-2000

Procedures for Post-Exposure Rabies Prophylaxis for Previously Immunized Persons

When a person previously immunized with human rabies vaccines or if immunized with duck embryo vaccine with a demonstrated protective titer is exposed to rabies, that person should receive 2 IM doses (1.0 ml) of rabies vaccine: one immediately and the second one 3 days later. Human Rabies Immune Globulin (HRIG) should NOT be given in these cases. If the immune status of a previously vaccinated person who did not receive the recommended regimen is not known, full primary post-exposure anti-rabies prophylaxis (HRIG plus four doses of vaccine, five if immune compromised) is necessary.

- Human Diploid Cell Vaccine (HDCV): **Imovax® Rabies**
 - Sanofi Pasteur
 - Phone: (800) VACCINE (822-2463)
 - Website: <https://www.vaccineshoppe.com/index.cfm?fa=anon.piexpress>

- Purified Chick Embryo Cell Vaccine (PCEC): **RabAvert®**
 - GSK Vaccines, GmbH
 - Phone: (866) 475-8222
 - Website: <https://www.gsksource.com/pharma/content/gsk/source/us/en/brands/rabavert.html>

Pregnancy: Because the potential consequences of inadequately treated rabies exposures are fatal, and limited data indicate that fetal abnormalities have not been associated with rabies vaccinations, pregnancy is NOT considered a contraindication to post-exposure prophylaxis. If there is substantial risk of exposure to rabies, pre-exposure prophylaxis may also be indicated during pregnancy.

Allergies: Persons with history of hypersensitivity should be given rabies vaccine with caution. When a patient with a history suggesting hypersensitivity must be given vaccine, antihistamines may be given; epinephrine should be readily available to counteract anaphylactic reactions, and the person should be carefully observed for an appropriate amount of time post-vaccination.

For further information, please see our website at <https://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/programs-services/topics/information-for-healthcare-professionals> or email us at adh.zoonotic@arkansas.gov.

Point of contact:
Laura Rothfeldt, DVM, DACVPM
State Public Health Veterinarian
Office: (501) 280-4136
Mobile: (501) 681-2277
Laura.Rothfeldt@arkansas.gov