RABIES POST-EXPOSURE PROPHYLAXIS (PEP) ASSESSMENT DECISION TREE

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

- **NO**
  - Rabies PEP **NOT advised.**
  - **Exception for Bats**

- **YES**
  - **What kind of animal?**

- **Small rodent:** squirrel, hamster, guinea pig, gerbil, chipmunk, rat, mouse
- **Lagomorph:** rabbit, hare
- **Opossum**

  - Rabies PEP **NOT advised.**

- **Dog, cat, or domestic ferret**

  - **Is animal’s location known?**
    - **NO**
      - Rabies PEP **NOT advised.**
    - **YES**
      - Consult with AR State Public Health Veterinarian at (501) 280-4136 or physician on call (800) 633-1735.

- **Bat, skunk, fox, or other wild carnivore**

  - **Is animal’s location known?**
    - **NO**
      - Rabies PEP **NOT advised.**
    - **YES**
      - Test for rabies. Rabies PEP **not indicated pending test results.**
        - **Is the test positive?**
          - **YES**
            - Rabies PEP **NOT advised.**
          - **NO**
            - Administer Rabies PEP!

- **Farm animal:** cow, sheep, pig, horse, goat
- **Exotic animal:** tiger, bear, monkey

  - Rabies PEP **NOT advised.**

*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 with Arkansas Department of Health Public Health Veterinarian (501) 280-4136 or physician on call (800) 633-1735*
### TABLE 1. Currently available rabies biologics -- United States, 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Human rabies vaccine</th>
<th>Product name</th>
<th>Manufacturer</th>
<th>Dose</th>
<th>Route</th>
<th>Indications</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Human diploid cell vaccine</td>
<td>Imovax®</td>
<td>Sanofi Pasteur</td>
<td>1 mL</td>
<td>Intramuscular</td>
<td>Pre-exposure or Post-exposure&lt;sup&gt;2&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rabies&lt;sup&gt;1&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Phone: 800-822-2463 Website: <a href="http://www.vaccineplace.com/products/">http://www.vaccineplace.com/products/</a></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purified chick embryo cell vaccine</td>
<td>RabAvert&lt;sup&gt;®&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Novartis Vaccines and Diagnostics</td>
<td>1 mL</td>
<td>Intramuscular</td>
<td>Pre-exposure or Post-exposure&lt;sup&gt;2&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Phone: 800-244-7668 Website: <a href="http://www.rabavert.com">http://www.rabavert.com</a></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rabies Immune globulin</td>
<td>Imogam&lt;sup&gt;®&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Sanofi Pasteur</td>
<td>20 IU/kg</td>
<td>Local&lt;sup&gt;3&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Postexposure only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>HyperRab&lt;sup&gt;™&lt;/sup&gt; S/D</td>
<td>Talecris Biotherapeutics Bayer Biological Products</td>
<td>20 IU/kg</td>
<td>Local&lt;sup&gt;3&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Postexposure only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Phone: 800-243-4153 Website: <a href="http://www.taecris-pl.info">http://www.taecris-pl.info</a></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<sup>1</sup>Imovax Rabies I.D., administered intradermally, is no longer available in the United States.

<sup>2</sup>For post-exposure prophylaxis, the vaccine is administered on days 0, 3, 7 and 14 in patients who have not been previously vaccinated and on days 0 and 3 in patients who have been previously vaccinated.

For pre-exposure prophylaxis, the vaccine is administered on days 0, 7 and 21 or 28.

<sup>3</sup>As much of the product as is anatomically feasible should be infiltrated into and around the wound. Any remaining product should be administered intramuscularly in the deltoid or quadriceps (at a location other than that used for vaccine inoculation to minimize potential interference).

### Table 4. Rabies postexposure prophylaxis schedule -- United States, 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vaccination status</th>
<th>Treatment</th>
<th>Regimen&lt;sup&gt;1&lt;/sup&gt;</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Not previously vaccinated</td>
<td>Wound cleansing</td>
<td>All post-exposure prophylaxis should begin with immediate thorough cleansing of all wounds with soap and water. If available, a virucidal agent such as povidine-iodine solution should be used to irrigate the wounds. Rabies immune globulin (RIG) Administer 20 IU/kg body weight. If anatomically feasible, the full dose should be infiltrated around the wound(s) and any remaining volume should be administered intramuscularly (IM) at an anatomical site distant from vaccine administration. Also, RIG should not be administered in the same syringe as vaccine. Because RIG might partially suppress active production of antibody, no more than the recommended dose should be given. Vaccine Human diploid cell vaccine (HDCV) or purified chick embryo cell vaccine (PCECV) 1.0 mL, IM (deltoid area&lt;sup&gt;2&lt;/sup&gt;), one each on day 0&lt;sup&gt;4&lt;/sup&gt;, 3, 7 and 14.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Previously vaccinated&lt;sup&gt;2&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Wound cleansing</td>
<td>All post-exposure prophylaxis should begin with immediate thorough cleansing of all wounds with soap and water. If available, a virucidal agent such as povidine-iodine solution should be used to irrigate the wounds. RIG RIG should not be administered. Vaccine HDCV or PCECV 1.0 mL, IM (deltoid area&lt;sup&gt;2&lt;/sup&gt;), one each on days 0&lt;sup&gt;4&lt;/sup&gt; and 3.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<sup>1</sup>These regimens are applicable for all age groups, including children.

<sup>2</sup>Any person with a history of complete pre-exposure or post-exposure vaccination regimen with HDCV, PCECV, or rabies vaccine absorbed, or previous vaccination with any other type of rabies vaccine and documented history of antibody response of the prior vaccination.

<sup>3</sup>The deltoitd area is the only acceptable site of vaccination for adults and older children. For younger children, the outer aspect of the thigh can be used. Vaccine should never be administered in the gluteal area.

<sup>4</sup>Day 0 is the day the first dose of vaccine is administered.