

## **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR POST-EXPOSURE ANTI-RABIES TREATMENT**

### **HUMAN DIPLOID CELL VACCINE (HDCV) and PURIFIED CHICK EMBRYO CELL VACCINE (PCEC)**

- POST-EXPOSURE PROPHYLAXIS SHOULD BE STARTED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER EXPOSURE AND OFFERED TO EXPOSED PERSON REGARDLESS OF THE ELAPSED INTERVAL. VACCINE SHOULD BE ADMINISTERED AS WELL AS RABIES IMMUNE GLOBULIN (RabIg), EXCEPT IN CERTAIN PREVIOUSLY IMMUNIZED PERSONS.
- UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD VACCINE BE ADMINISTERED IN THE SAME SYRINGE OR AT THE SAME SITE AS RabIg.

**Five doses of vaccine are required (a single dose is 1 vial of vaccine); the first dose as soon as possible after exposure (day 0), an additional dose on each of days 3, 7, 14 and 28 after the first dose.** The vaccine should be given intramuscularly into the deltoid muscle (never in the gluteal region) or in infants the anterolateral upper thigh. **A single dose of RabIg is given on day 0 as described on Rabies Immune Globulin sheet.** Routine follow-up antibody determination is not necessary. If the course of vaccine is initiated with one type of vaccine, the other vaccine can be substituted for any of the treatments.

The vaccine series may be discontinued after consultation with public health/infectious disease experts if the testing of the brain of an animal killed at the time of attack is negative. However, if suspicion of rabies in the animal remains high, even in the presence of a negative test, the immunization series should be continued.

***PLEASE ENSURE THAT ALL VACCINES ARE STORED BETWEEN 2° – 8 °C. IF FRIDGE TEMPERATURES FALL OUT OF THIS RANGE PLEASE CALL NIAGARA REGION PUBLIC HEALTH AT 905-688-8248 ext. 7425 or 1-888-505-6074 ext 7425.***

***VACCINES CANNOT BE RELEASED TO THE PATIENT***

**If you have any questions regarding the administration of this vaccine, please contact the Medical Officer of Health at 905-688-8248**

**RABIES IMMUNE GLOBULIN (RabIg)**

- **RabIg SHOULD BE ADMINISTERED IN ONE OCCASION, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER EXPOSURE AND AT THE SAME TIME AS THE FIRST DOSE OF VACCINE.** If anatomically feasible, the full dose of RabIg should be **thoroughly infiltrated in the area around and into the wound.** The RabIg may be diluted 2-3 fold in a solution of 0.9% sodium chloride in order to provide the full amount of RabIg required for thorough infiltration of the wound. Any remaining volume should be given intramuscularly using a separate syringe and needle. If the site of the wound is unknown, as in the case of a bat found in a room when a person was sleeping unattended, administer the entire volume intramuscularly (e.g., in the gluteal or lateral thigh area).
- Since vaccine-induced antibody begins to appear within one week, there is no value in administering RabIg more than 8 days after initiating a course of vaccine. **The dosage is 20 IU per kilogram or 9.09 IU per lb body weight.** RabIg is supplied in 2 ml vials containing 150 IU/ml. Use the following formulae to calculate the dose required:  

$$20\text{IU/kg} \times (\text{client wt in kg}) \div 150 \text{ IU/ml} = \text{dose in ml}$$

$$9.09 \text{ IU/lb} \times (\text{client wt in lb}) \div 150 \text{ IU/ml} = \text{dose in ml}$$
- The guide below can be used to determine the number of vials needed. Do not administer in excess of recommended number of vials.
- **Under no circumstances should vaccine be administered in the same syringe or at the same site as RabIg.**

**RABIES IMMUNE GLOBULIN (RabIg) GUIDE FOR NUMBER OF VIALS**

TOTAL WEIGHT		NUMBER OF VIALS	TOTAL WEIGHT		NUMBER OF VIALS
To 33 lbs	To 15 Kg	1	166 – 198 lbs	75 – 90 Kg	6
34 - 66 lbs	15 – 30 Kg	2	199 – 231 lbs	90 – 105 Kg	7
67 - 99 lbs	30 – 45 Kg	3	232 – 264 lbs	105 – 120 Kg	8
100 – 132 lbs	45 – 60 Kg	4	265 – 297 lbs	120 – 135 Kg	9
133 – 165 lbs	60 – 75 Kg	5	298 – 330 lbs	135 – 150 Kg	10

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**VACCINES CANNOT BE RELEASED TO THE PATIENT**

**If you have any questions regarding the administration of this vaccine, please contact the Medical Officer of Health at 905-688-8248**