 Managing Animal Bites, Rabies Exposures & Rabies Postexposure Prophylaxis (PEP)

1. Wound Care
   • Bite wounds and animal scratches should have been cleaned thoroughly with running water and soap immediately after the incident
   • Provide wound care and consider antibiotics

2. Tetanus Prophylaxis
   • Administer tetanus toxoid promptly if patient has not received a tetanus vaccine (Tdap/Td) in the last five years
   • If patient has not completed the tetanus vaccination regimen previously, administer a dose of tetanus toxoid promptly and consider passive immunization with human tetanus immune globulin (TIG)

3. Rabies Risk Assessment
   • Perform Human Rabies Risk Assessments to determine if Rabies (PEP) is indicated.

4. Rabies Biologics and PEP Administration (refer to package insert)
   • Human Rabies Immune Globulin (HRIG) – Administer once to previously unvaccinated patients, bite or non-bite exposure. Infiltrate full dose (20 IU/kg) of HRIG, if anatomically feasible, into and around wound areas. Inject remaining volume IM at a site distant from vaccine administration. HRIG should never be administered in the same syringe or in the same anatomical site as the first rabies vaccine. If non-bite exposure (i.e., bat in bedroom) inject HRIG into deltoid or anterolateral thigh muscle at a site distant to vaccine administration.
   • Rabies Vaccine – Inject in deltoid muscle or anterolateral thigh muscle (for infants and small children).
   • Never inject vaccine or HRIG into gluteal area due to potential for lower antibody titers (adipose depot).

### PEP for Patient Not Previously Vaccinated

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>0</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>7</th>
<th>14</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HRIG*</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rabies** Vaccine</td>
<td>1.0 mL</td>
<td>1.0 mL</td>
<td>1.0 mL</td>
<td>1.0 mL</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*HRIG can be administered up to and including the seventh day (Day 7) after the first dose (Day 0) of rabies vaccine

**Administer Day 28 only if patient is immunocompromised

### PEP for Patient Previously Vaccinated

(Patient has previously completed Pre-EP, PEP or has evidence of an adequate serological titer (RFFIT))

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>0</th>
<th>3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rabies Vaccine</td>
<td>1.0 mL</td>
<td>1.0 mL</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Contact Information

North Carolina Communicable Disease Branch
919-733-3419 (24/7)
http://epi.publichealth.nc.gov/cd/

http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr57e507a1.htm
Use of a Reduced (4-Dose) Vaccine Schedule for Postexposure Prophylaxis to Prevent Human Rabies: Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices. http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5902a1.htm

2/10/2016