

# Animal Bites and Rabies Exposures – A Checklist for Physicians in Los Angeles County

- COLLECT ANIMAL INFORMATION from patient
  - Biting animal species, physical description, and general description of how incident occurred.
  - Date, location where bite occurred.
  - Where is animal now? Every effort should be made to locate and (if it is wild or stray) safely detain the animal at the time of the incident. Ask the patient to contact local animal control to arrange for quarantine and observation or testing of the animal.
- REPORT BITE
  - In LA County, physicians are legally required to report all animal bites except rodent, squirrel, and rabbit bites. Bites must be reported even if the animal appeared healthy.
    - Report to Veterinary Public Health: Tel: (213) 288-7060, Fax (213) 481-2375 Email: [vet@ph.lacounty.gov](mailto:vet@ph.lacounty.gov)
    - Online bite report portal: [www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/vet/biteintro.htm](http://www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/vet/biteintro.htm)
- EVALUATE NEED for Rabies Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP)
  - Should Rabies PEP be given?
    - See national guidelines at: [www.cdc.gov/mmwr/PDF/rr/rr57e507.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/PDF/rr/rr57e507.pdf)
    - Cat/dog bites that happened within LA County might not require PEP.
    - If rabies consultation needed: call Acute Communicable Disease Control (ACDC) “Doctor-on-Duty” at Public Health: (213)-240-7941 (if case is based in Los Angeles County)
- IF NEEDED, ADMINISTER Rabies PEP
  - Physicians caring for insured patients in LA County should not refer the case to public health for treatment. Instead they should order rabies biologicals for their patient and administer them. Emergency Departments and travel clinics often have rabies biologicals on hand. Providers may choose to ask their patients to start the series in a hospital emergency department (such as first vaccination and HRIG) while they order the remaining vaccinations for the patient.
  - Rabies PEP is a medical “urgency” not emergency
  - The first day of rabies PEP is called Day 0.
  - Rabies vaccinations (available in 1ml individual doses)
    - Give intramuscularly on Days 0, 3, 7, 14. Deltoid muscle is common choice. **Do not give in the gluteal muscles.**
    - Note: As of fall 2009 – 5<sup>th</sup> vaccine dose at day 28 dropped from standard ACIP recommendations. Vaccine labels still describe 5-dose protocol.
    - Immunosuppressed patients still need to receive 5<sup>th</sup> rabies vaccine at day 28.
  - Human rabies immune globulin (HRIG)
    - Give 1 dose only - 20 IU/kg to previously UNVACCINATED persons
    - Available in 2 or 10 ml vials, 150 IU/ml. Note - One brand of HRIG is available at a double strength dose of 300 IU/ml.
    - Typically given on Day 0 - Infiltrate as much as possible in and around bite wound, with remainder given intramuscularly **at site distant from location where rabies vaccine was given**. If there is no known bite wound (i.e. bat encounter with risk of bite but no bite known) give the entire dose intramuscularly.
    - HRIG must give within 7 days of the first rabies vaccine dose.
  - Updated information on rabies PEP biologicals is available at: <https://www.cdc.gov/rabies/resources/availability>.



## Ordering Rabies Vaccine:

<p><b>GlaxoSmithKline (RabAvert® – PCECV) 1-800-244-7668</b> www.GSKdirect.com</p>	<p><b>Sanofi-Pasteur (Imovax® -HDCV) 1-800-822-2463</b> www.vaccineshoppe.com</p>
<p><u>For Post-Exposure Prophylaxis:</u> Available for ordering without restrictions. Often able to receive order rapidly.</p> <p><u>Pre-exposure Prophylaxis:</u> Available for ordering without restrictions.</p>	<p><u>For Post-Exposure Prophylaxis:</u> Available for ordering without restrictions. Often able to receive order rapidly.</p> <p><u>Pre-exposure Prophylaxis:</u> Available for ordering without restrictions.</p>
<p><u>Ordering:</u> <u>From GSK:</u> Create an account on website www.GSKdirect.com. Account takes 2-10 days to activate. Obtain customer number. Place order. Vaccine can be ordered and received overnight if ordered by 3:00pm EST Mon-Thurs. No minimum order, but possible surcharge. No charge to set up or maintain account in advance. As of November 2019 cost was \$337.00 per vaccine. <u>From Distributors:</u> Vaccines may be available through biologicals distributors. Ask your distributors in advance. Ask if minimum order, speed of delivery, cost.</p>	<p><u>Ordering:</u> <u>From Sanofi:</u> Vaccine can be ordered and received overnight if clinic has account already set up and ordered before 6:00pm EST. No minimum order. Account set-up takes up to 48 hours if not done online. No charge to set up or maintain account in advance. As of November 2019 cost was \$356.35 per vaccine. <u>From Distributors:</u> Vaccines may be available through biologicals distributors. Ask your distributors in advance. Ask if minimum order, speed of delivery, cost.</p>

## Ordering Human Rabies Immune Globulin (HRIG)

<p><b>Grifols Therapeutics (HyperRab™ S/D and HyperRab)</b> <b>1-888-474-3657</b> <a href="http://www.grifolsusa.com">www.grifolsusa.com</a></p>	<p><b>Sanofi-Pasteur (Imogam® -Rabies HT)</b> <b>1-800-822-2463</b> <a href="http://www.vaccineshoppe.com">www.vaccineshoppe.com</a></p>	<p><b>Kedron Biopharma (KEDRAB®)</b> <b>1-855-353-7466</b> <a href="https://www.kedron.us/">https://www.kedron.us/</a> <a href="mailto:US_CustomerService@kedron.com">US_CustomerService@kedron.com</a></p>
<p>Dose: 20 IU/kg How supplied: 2ml or 10ml vials, 150 IU/ml (HyperRab S/D) and 300 IU/ml (HyperRab)</p>	<p>Dose: 20 IU/kg How supplied: 2ml vials, 150 IU/ml.</p>	<p>Dose: 20 IU/kg How supplied: 2ml or 10ml vials, 150 IU/ml</p>
<p><u>Ordering:</u> HyperRab is sold primarily through distributors and wholesalers. Minimum amount of order, delivery and cost depends on distributor.</p>	<p><u>Ordering:</u> From Sanofi: Immune globulin can be ordered and received overnight if ordered before 6:00pm EST. No minimum. Must set up an account (adds 48 hour delay, faster if account set up online). No charge to set up or maintain account in advance. As of November 2019 cost was \$758.67 per 2 ml vial. <u>From Distributors:</u> Imogam is not available through distributors.</p>	<p><u>Ordering:</u> From Kedron: KEDRAB® is available through distributors as well as directly from Kedron Biopharma. Minimum amount of order, delivery, and cost depends on distributor.</p>

DPH does not promote or endorse any particular product.