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Rabies Post-Exposure Prophylaxis How to Order Rabies Vaccine and HRIG in San Francisco

RABIES VACCINE AND HRIG SUPPLIES ADEQUATE

Previous limits on purchasing Rabies vaccine have been lifted due to adequate supply. Vaccine is available for pre and post-exposure prophylaxis from both Sanofi Pasteur (Imovax^R) and Novartis (RabAvert^R) Vaccines. Human rabies immune globulin (HRIG) supplies are also adequate. Health care providers who wish to order Rabies vaccine no longer need Public Health approval nor do they need to obtain a pass code prior to ordering Imovax^R. Health care providers should continue to call SFDPH Communicable Disease Control Unit (CDCU) at (415) 554-2830 to report a potential rabies exposure or to discuss the need for post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP).

Rabies vaccine schedule for Post Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) has been reduced from 5 to 4 doses (except for immunosuppressed persons who should continue to receive 5 doses of rabies vaccine).

The new recommendations released March 19, 2010 by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) reduce the number of human rabies vaccine doses to 4 given on days 0, 3, 7, and 14 by eliminating the previously recommended 5th dose on day 28 (except for immunosuppressed patients who should continue to receive 5 doses of rabies vaccine). Human rabies immune globulin (HRIG) continues to be recommended (20 IU/Kg) on day 0 for persons not considered previously immunized for rabies. If HRIG was not administered when vaccination was begun on day 0, it must be administered within 7 days of the first dose of vaccine.

These new ACIP recommendations differ from current rabies vaccine label instructions, which still list the 5-dose series for PEP. Alterations of current product labels for human diploid cell vaccine (HDCV) and purified chick embryo cell vaccine (PCECV) are not anticipated by the producers of human rabies vaccines licensed for use in the United States.

To Order HRIG:

- HRIG supplies are adequate. HRIG may be ordered through normal procedures.

Contact information for Rabies Vaccine suppliers:

Rabies Vaccine:	Manufacturer	Phone Number	Website
Human Diploid Cell Vaccine (HDCV) – Intramuscular (Imovax ^R)	Sanofi Pasteur	(800)-VACCINE (822-2463) Monday-Friday 5 AM – 3:30 PM PST	www.vaccineshoppe.com (can order online)
Purified Chick Embryo Cell Vaccine (PCECV)-Intramuscular (RabAvert ^R)	Novartis Vaccines & Diagnostics	(800)-244-7668 (866)-224-1230 (FAX) Monday-Friday 5 AM – 5 PM PST	www.novartisvaccinedirect.com (can order online)

Contact information for HRIG suppliers:

HRIG - Human Rabies Immune Globulin	Distributor/ Manufacturer	Phone Number	Website
HyperRAB ^R	FFF Enterprises/ Talecris Biotherapeutics, Inc	(800) 843-7477 Monday-Friday 5 AM -5 PM PST	http://www.fffenterprises.com/ (can order online)
IMOGAM ^R Rabies HT	Sanofi Pasteur	(800) 822-2463 Monday - Friday 5 AM- 3:30 PM PST	www.vaccineshoppe.com (can order online)

For Emergencies Only:

Human Rabies Vaccine and Human Rabies Immune Globulin are available to hospital pharmacies for replacement only from:

Facility Name	Location	Hours:	Phone Number
University of California Medical Center AVAILABLE ONLY TO HOSPITAL PHARMACIES and ONLY FOR REPLACEMENT	505 Parnassus Avenue, M39C San Francisco, CA 94143	24 hours	(415) 353-1028

Recommended Schedule for a previously unvaccinated person:

Scheduled dose:		Date due
Day 0	HRIG	
	Rabies Vaccine	
Day 3	Rabies Vaccine	
Day 7	Rabies Vaccine	
Day 14	Rabies Vaccine	
Day 28	Rabies Vaccine	Immunosuppressed persons only *

* When rabies pre- or postexposure prophylaxis is administered to an immunosuppressed person, one or more serum samples should be tested for rabies virus-neutralizing antibody by the rapid fluorescent focus inhibition test (RFFIT) to ensure that an acceptable antibody response has developed after completing the series. If no acceptable antibody response is detected after the final dose in the pre- or postexposure prophylaxis series, the patient should be managed in consultation with their physician and appropriate public health officials.

Resources:

- San Francisco Department of Public Health (SFDPH): <http://www.sfdcp.org/rabies>
- California Department of Public Health (CDPH):
<http://www.cdph.ca.gov/HealthInfo/discond/Pages/rabies.aspx>
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC):
http://www.cdc.gov/rabies/resources/news/vaccine_supply/index.html
- Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices. Use of a Reduced (4-Dose) Vaccine Schedule for Postexposure Prophylaxis to Prevent Human Rabies; MMWR March 19, 2010
<http://www.cdc.gov/MMWR/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5902a1.htm>

- SFDPH Adult Immunization Clinic (vaccine administration only; no wound care and no HRIG):
<http://www.sfdcp.org/aitc>