Rabies Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP)*

**What is Rabies PEP?**

Rabies PEP includes:
- Wound cleaning
- Rabies immune globulin (RIG)†
- A series of rabies vaccinations

†For persons who have not previously been vaccinated against rabies.

**Who should receive PEP?**

A person who has been bitten by a rabid or potentially rabid animal.

10% of bats tested in Marin are rabid. Other mammals, wildlife and domestic pets, can also transmit rabies. Call Marin Communicable Disease Prevention and Control (CDPC) for help in assessing exposure risk.

**How should Rabies PEP biologics be administered?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Not previously vaccinated</th>
<th>Previously vaccinated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RIG (20 IU/kg)</td>
<td>RIG (20 IU/kg)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Infiltrate wound(s) with full dose, if possible. Inject any remaining RIG IM in a site <strong>distant from vaccine</strong>, e.g. vaccine in deltoid, remaining RIG in opposite deltoid or thigh.</td>
<td>Do not administer.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vaccine (1 mL)</td>
<td>Vaccine (1 mL)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inject IM, in deltoid, on days 0, 3, 7, and 14. Immunocompromised persons should receive five doses of vaccine (on days 0, 3, 7, 14, and 28).</td>
<td>Inject IM in deltoid on days 0 and 3.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DO**

- Infiltrate all wounds with RIG, unless patient was previously vaccinated.
- Inject vaccine in deltoid, or in thigh for children.
- Give tetanus booster, if appropriate.
- Report animal bites to Marin Humane at 415-883-4621.
- Contact Marin CDPC at 415-473-4163 with questions about the recommended rabies PEP schedule.

**DON’T**

- Don’t inject RIG and vaccine at the same site.
- Don’t inject vaccine in the gluteus.
- Don’t give RIG to a previous recipient of PEP or pre-exposure vaccination.
- Don’t give RIG in the same syringe as vaccine.
- Don’t give more than the recommended dose of RIG.

*From the 2010 recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) 2019*

Requests for accommodations may be made by calling (415) 473-4163 (Voice), (415)473-3232 (TTY) or by e-mail at hhsmediatem@marincounty.org. Copies of documents are available in alternative formats, upon request.