

RABIES POST-EXPOSURE PROPHYLAXIS (PEP): HOW TO ADMINISTER



What is PEP?

The treatment plan for someone exposed to rabies that includes wound cleaning, HRIG*, and vaccinations

*For previously unvaccinated



Safe and
Effective for
pregnant
women and
children

How to administer PEP

- Immediately treat wound with soap and water, if available use a virucidal agent (eg. povidine-iodine).
- Administer HRIG for previously unvaccinated – 20 IU/kg of body weight (applies to children as well).
- Administer first vaccine (**NOT** in the same site as HRIG).

Administration Site

- HRIG is to be administered directly to wound site (the rest of the volume given IM) and **NEVER** in the same syringe as the vaccine or same location as vaccine.
- Vaccine **MUST** be administered intramuscularly in the deltoid (arm) area for adults.
- For infants, vaccine may be injected into deltoid area or the anterolateral aspect of the thigh.

Patient Not Previously Vaccinated:

- Administer HRIG on day 0
- Vaccines on days 0, 3, 7, and 14
(add day 28 if immunocompromised)

Patient Previously Vaccinated:

- Do not administer HRIG
- Vaccines on days 0 and 3

Questions? Contact your local health department

Source: Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, CDC.gov

