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Confidential

Rabies Post Exposure Prophylaxis Referral

Date: _____ **Fax Number:** _____

To: _____ **Facility:** _____

Re: _____

From: _____ **Phone:** (415) 554-2830

Recommendations:

The San Francisco Department of Public Health, Communicable Disease Control Unit recommends the following rabies post exposure vaccination series schedule for the patient named above. **Both, human rabies immune globulin (HRIG) AND first dose vaccine must be administered on day zero.**

Recommended Schedule:

Scheduled dose:		ROUTE/Site	Date due	Adjusted Schedule* (if applicable)
Day 0	HRIG	Infiltrate around wound, distant site from vaccine		
	Rabies Vaccine	IM/Deltoid		
Day 3	Rabies Vaccine	IM/Deltoid		
Day 7	Rabies Vaccine	IM/Deltoid		
Day 14	Rabies Vaccine	IM/Deltoid		
Day 28	Rabies Vaccine	IM/Deltoid	Immunosuppressed patients only	Immunosuppressed patients only

***If patient gets off schedule, restart series as soon as possible and continue at recommended intervals.**

HRIG is administered only once (i.e., at the beginning of rabies PEP) to previously unvaccinated persons to provide immediate antibodies until the patient responds to rabies vaccination by actively producing antibodies. If HRIG is not given with the first dose of vaccine, it can be given through the 7th day following administration of the first vaccine dose. Beyond the 7th day after the first dose of vaccine, HRIG is not indicated since an antibody response to cell culture vaccine is presumed to have occurred.

If anatomically feasible, the full dose of HRIG should be infiltrated into the subcutaneous tissue and/or muscle around the wound site(s), and any remaining volume administered intramuscularly at an anatomical site distant from vaccine administration. HRIG should never be administered in the same syringe or at the same anatomical site as vaccine and should never be administered in the gluteal area unless that is the site of exposure. *Source: California Compendium of Rabies Control and Prevention, 2004, Part II, Pages 3 and 10.*

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. *Source: Use of a Reduced (4-Dose) Vaccine Schedule for Postexposure Prophylaxis to Prevent Human Rabies MMWR, March 19, 2010 / 59(RR02)*

In case of any questions regarding these recommendations or management of an immunosuppressed patient, please call our office at: (415) 554-2830.

For clinic use: Date series (Day 0 and HRIG) initiated on: _____.

Fax this completed form to our office at: 415-554-2848, and provide a copy to the patient.