

September 20, 2019

Interim Rabies Immune Globulin-sparing Measures

Due to a shortage of rabies immune globulin (Rablg) in Canada, the Ministry of Health has issued interim Rablg-sparing measures. This vaccine shortage may continue into late 2019.

**Rablg should only be administered at the site of the wound.
Remaining Rablg should NOT be given at other intramuscular sites.**

- Calculate the dose of Rablg (20 IU/kg body weight)
- Infiltrate as much of the calculated dose as possible around the wound(s) or site of exposure (if a bite or scratch is not evident)
- Draw up one vial at a time in order to save any unopened vials that you don't use
- For small wounds, the maximal quantity that is anatomically feasible should be administered
 - Health professionals can discuss in advance with TPH if delivery of a reduced total number of vials may be sufficient for a patient with wounds in small sites (e.g., fingers, toes)
- When more than one wound exists, each wound should be locally infiltrated with a portion of the Rablg using a separate needle and syringe
 - In such instances, Rablg can be diluted in a diluent permitted by the specific product labelling in order to provide the full amount of Rablg required for thorough infiltration of all wounds.
- Do NOT give any remaining Rablg at IM sites. Save any unopened vials for use in another case.

More information about conducting a risk assessment for animal exposures and administering rabies post-exposure prophylaxis is available at:
toronto.ca/health/professionals.