



Compendium of Animal Rabies Prevention and Control, 2015 Briefing

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Objectives

- Describe the document
- Summarize its purpose
- Highlight some key revisions
- Provide link to compendia produced by the National Association of State Public Health Veterinarians (NASPHV), including the most recently published edition of The Compendium of Animal Rabies Prevention and Control

The Compendium of Animal Rabies Prevention and Control

- Produced by the National Association of State Public Health Veterinarians, Compendium of Animal Rabies Prevention and Control Committee
- The recommendations in this compendium serve as a basis for animal rabies prevention and control programs throughout the U.S. and facilitate standardization of procedures among jurisdictions, thereby contributing to an effective national rabies control program. This document is reviewed and revised as necessary. These recommendations do not supersede state and local laws or requirements

Part I- Rabies Prevention and Control

A- Principles of Rabies Prevention and Control

(3)-Interdisciplinary Approach

- Clear and consistent communication and coordination among relevant animal and human health partners, across and within all jurisdictions (including international, national, state and local) is necessary to most effectively prevent and control rabies. Like many zoonoses and other emerging infections, rabies prevention requires the cooperation of animal control, law enforcement, natural resource personnel, veterinarians, diagnosticians, public health professionals, physicians, animal and pet owners, and others. An integrated program must include the ability to promptly respond to situations, humanely restrain, capture, and euthanize animals, administer quarantines, confinements and observation periods, and prepare samples for submission to a testing laboratory.

Part I, A (6)-Domestic Animal Vaccination

- ...An important tool to optimize public and animal health and domestic animal rabies control is routine or emergency implementation of low cost or free rabies vaccination clinics. To facilitate implementation, jurisdictions should work with veterinary medical licensing boards, veterinary associations and the local veterinary community, animal control officials, and animal welfare organizations.

Part I, A (9)-Rabies Surveillance

- ...A comprehensive surveillance program should not be limited to testing only animals that have potentially exposed people or domestic animals to rabies.
- ...To enhance the ability to make evidence-based recommendations using national surveillance data, additional data should be collected and reported on all rabid domestic animals. Essential data elements include age, sex, intact/not intact status, ownership status, quarantine dates (if any), date of onset, and complete vaccination history.

Part I, B-Prevention and Control Methods in Domestic and Confined Animals

(1)-Pre-exposure Vaccination and Management

- Adherence to a regular rabies vaccination schedule is critical to protect animals against recognized and unrecognized rabies exposures.
- Initial vaccination and booster vaccination one year later:
 - Thereafter, booster vaccinations should be given in a manner consistent with the manufacturer's label. If a previously vaccinated animal is overdue for a booster, including the one-year booster, it should be revaccinated. Immediately after revaccination, the animal is considered currently vaccinated and should be placed on a booster schedule consistent with the label of the vaccine used.

Part I, B (2)- Stray Animals

- ...mechanisms should be put in place to facilitate voluntary surrender of animals to prevent abandonment.
- Stray and feral cats serve as a significant source of rabies exposure risk. If communities allow maintenance of feral cat colonies despite this risk, they should safeguard the health of the cats and the communities in which they reside by requiring that cats receive initial and ongoing rabies booster vaccinations.

Part I, B (3)- Importation and Interstate Movement of Animals

(b)- International Importation

- ...Current federal regulations are insufficient to prevent the introduction of rabid animals into the U.S. and must be strengthened, and appropriately enforced. CDC and USDA's, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, have regulatory authority over the importation of dogs and cats into the U.S.

Part I, B (5)- Post-exposure Management

- ...The rationale for observation, confinement or strict quarantine periods despite previous vaccination is based in part on the potential for: overwhelming viral challenge, incomplete vaccine efficacy, improper vaccine administration, variable host immunocompetence, and immune-mediated fatality (i.e., early death phenomenon).

Part I, B (5)- Post-exposure Management

(a)- Dogs, Cats, and Ferrets

- (2) Dogs, cats, and ferrets that have never been vaccinated and are exposed to a rabid animal should be euthanized immediately...If the owner is unwilling to euthanize, dogs and cats should be placed in strict quarantine for 4 months and ferrets for 6 months...Rabies vaccine should be administered upon entry into quarantine... Administration of vaccine should be done as soon as possible. It is recommended that the period from exposure to vaccination not exceed 96 hours. If vaccination is delayed, public health officials may consider increasing the quarantine period for the animal from 4 to 6 months, taking into consideration factors such as the severity of exposure, the length of delay in vaccination, current health status, and local rabies epidemiology.

Part I, B (5)- Post-exposure Management

(a)- Dogs, Cats, and Ferrets

- (3) Dogs and cats that are overdue for a booster vaccination and with appropriate documentation of receiving at least one previous USDA licensed rabies vaccination, should immediately receive veterinary medical care for assessment, wound cleansing, and a booster vaccination. The animal should be kept under the owner's control, and observed for 45 days. If booster vaccination is delayed, public health officials may consider increasing the observation period for the animal, taking into consideration factors such as the severity of exposure, the length of delay in booster vaccination, current health status, and local rabies epidemiology.

Part I, B (5)- Post-exposure Management

(a)- Dogs, Cats, and Ferrets

- (4) Dogs and cats that are overdue for a booster vaccination and without appropriate documentation of receiving at least one previous USDA licensed rabies vaccination, should immediately receive veterinary medical care for assessment, wound cleansing, and consultation with local public health authorities.
 - The animal can be revaccinated immediately and placed in strict quarantine as defined above in section I.B.5.a.2, and observed for 4 months.
 - Alternatively, prior to boosting, the attending veterinarian must contact the local public health authorities for guidance in the possible use of prospective serologic monitoring. Such monitoring would entail drawing paired serum samples to document prior vaccination by providing evidence of an anamnestic response to boosting. If an adequate anamnestic response is documented, the animal can be considered to be overdue as in Part I.B.5.a.3 above and observed for 45 days. If there is inadequate evidence of an anamnestic response, the animal is considered to have never been vaccinated and should be placed in strict quarantine as defined above in section I.B.5.a.2 and observed for 4 months.”

Part I, B (5)- Post-exposure Management

(b)- Livestock

- (3) Livestock overdue for a booster vaccination should be evaluated on a case-by-case basis based upon severity of exposure, time elapsed since last vaccination, number of previous vaccinations, current health status, and local rabies epidemiology to determine need for euthanasia or immediate revaccination and observation/quarantine.
- (6) ...State and local public health authorities, state meat inspectors and USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) should be notified if exposures occur in animals intended for commercial use. Animals should not be presented for slaughter in a FSIS-regulated establishment if such animals originate from a quarantine area and have not been approved for release by the proper authority.

Part I, C-Prevention and Control Methods Related to Wildlife

- Translocating infected wildlife has contributed to the spread of rabies. Animals that appear healthy can be rabid.
- ...minimum standards for persons who handle wild mammals should include rabies preexposure vaccination and specific rabies prevention and control training and continuing education of personnel in their programs.
- (1) Carnivores. The use of oral rabies vaccines (ORV) for the mass vaccination of free-ranging wildlife should be considered... Research to improve existing oral rabies vaccine and baits and to develop and test novel, safe and effective products must be encouraged.

Part II- Recommendations for Parenteral Rabies Vaccination Procedures

C- Adverse Events

- ...While an ill animal may not have a full immunologic response to vaccine, there is no evidence to suggest that adverse events are more likely to occur with rabies vaccination than in a healthy animal. A veterinarian choosing to temporarily delay vaccinating an animal with an acute illness or condition should ensure that the animal is vaccinated as soon as possible. Animals with a previous history of anaphylaxis can be medically managed and observed after vaccination. Severe adverse events related to rabies vaccination are extremely rare in animals. Decisions concerning rabies vaccination in animals with well-documented severe adverse events to rabies vaccine must be made within the context of a valid veterinary-client-patient relationship. Due consideration should be given to the attendant risks and benefits of not vaccinating including regulatory noncompliance. Animals not currently vaccinated that experience a rabies exposure are at greater risk for infection and death, and also put their owners and the community at risk.

Part II, D-Wildlife and Hybrid Animal Vaccination

- The safety and efficacy of parenteral rabies vaccination of wildlife and hybrids have not been established, and no rabies vaccines are licensed for these animals; any use of rabies vaccines in these animals is considered off-label.

Resources

- The most recent published version of the Compendium of Animal Rabies Prevention and Control is posted at:
<http://www.nasphv.org/documentsCompendia.html>
 - The 2015 version will be published in the Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association in late 2015 or early 2016
- The provisions of the Compendium of Animal Rabies Prevention and Control will be the subject of a Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (publication date to be determined)

Compendium of Animal Rabies Prevention and Control Committee

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QUESTIONS?

