

## Bat Encounters—What We Need to Know

Seventy percent of all human rabies cases acquired in the United States (US) are attributed to bats, according to data assessed over the past 50 years.<sup>1</sup> Indeed, bats surpassed dogs (both foreign and domestic) as the primary cause for rabies in humans in the US in 1991 (Figure).<sup>1</sup> In the past 15 years, the US public health system has responded to approximately 175 mass bat-exposure events, which are defined as events where more than 10 persons are exposed to a potentially rabid bat.<sup>1</sup>

Rabies is deadly if not addressed immediately after exposure.<sup>2</sup> Once symptoms of the disease appear after an incubation period that may vary from 5 days to over 2 years, there is no curative treatment.<sup>3</sup> Death follows within one or two weeks of symptom onset,<sup>3</sup> which is why prompt administration of postexposure prophylaxis (PEP) is vital. PEP refers to any preventive medical treatment started immediately after exposure to a pathogen (such as rabies) in order to prevent infection by the pathogen and subsequent disease development.<sup>4</sup> In the case of rabies exposure, recommended PEP involves wound cleaning, vaccination, and administration of human rabies immune globulin (HRIG) in previously unvaccinated individuals.<sup>3</sup>

**“Rabies virus infection is fatal in over 99% of cases, making it one of the world’s most deadly diseases.”<sup>1</sup>**

—Emily G. Pieracci et al. from *Vital Signs: Trends in Human Rabies Deaths and Exposures — United States, 1938–2018*

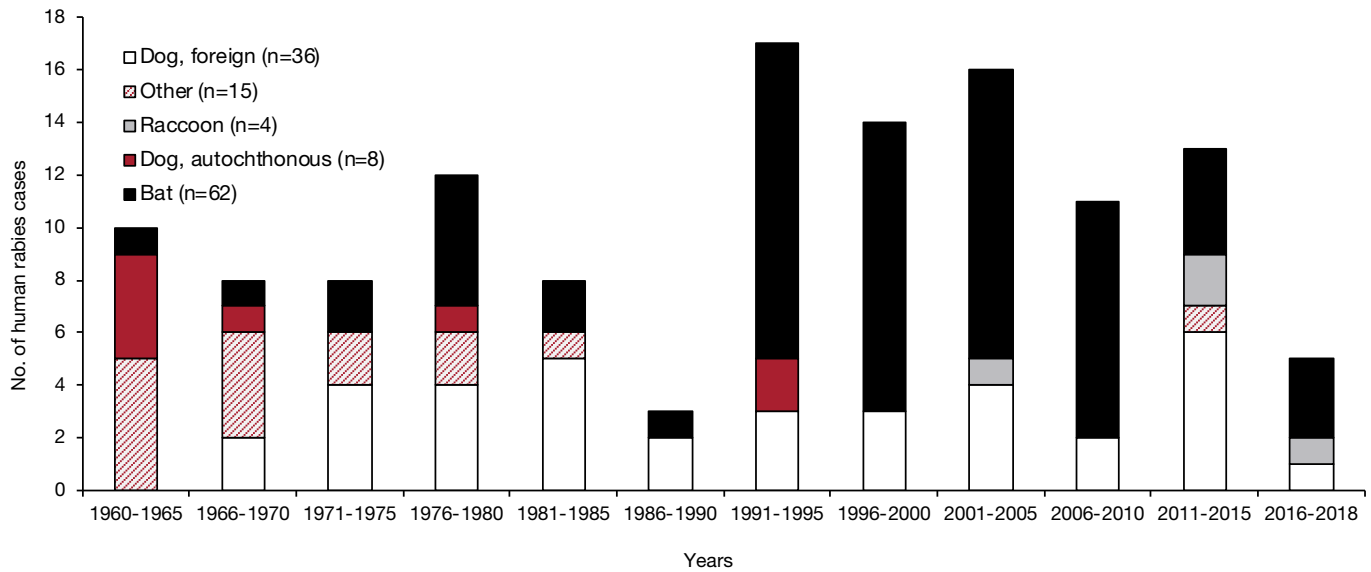
Given that bats are the primary source of rabies cases in humans, it is not surprising that they are also the primary cause of death due to rabies in the US.<sup>1,2</sup> From 1990-2015, there were 41 confirmed human rabies cases associated with bat rabies virus in North America. All were fatal.<sup>5</sup>

It is surprising, however, that when it comes to analysis of PEP administration among persons seeking care for a potential rabies exposure—numbering approximately 55,000 persons per year—the largest portion are seeking treatment for domestic animal exposures.<sup>1</sup>

If bats are the most common source of human rabies cases and death, why are bat exposures not the most commonly seen cases, in terms of individuals who seek preventative PEP treatment?

According to experts, this might be due to one unfortunate reality of “bat-encounter” scenarios. Individuals may not even be aware of their exposure and/or risk.<sup>5</sup>

**Figure: Rabies virus variants\* associated with human rabies cases (N=125)<sup>†</sup> – United States, 1960-2018<sup>1</sup>**



In almost half (42%) of *confirmed* human rabies cases attributed to bats, the infected person was not aware of the exposure.<sup>5</sup>

One reason for this lack of awareness might be the physiological features of the bat. Bats’ teeth are small and produce such sharp, needle-like bites that they may not be immediately noticeable, especially compared to a bite from a larger carnivore that would result in visible bleeding and/or broken skin as well as pain.<sup>5</sup> The bat can also transmit rabies through superficial skin piercing, pricks, or scratches from their claws, which form functional “hooks” on their wings.<sup>5</sup> Because the bat flies, it has unusual access to homes via open windows and doors. If a bat is neurologically impaired as it would be with a rabies infection, its use of sonar for the detection of obstacles and flight navigation could be compromised, resulting in collisions or unusual landings on humans, which it would have normally avoided.<sup>5</sup>

Consider the unusual—and recent—bat encounter by Roy Syvertson of New Hampshire. One evening in May 2019, Mr. Syvertson was settling down to use his iPad when he saw a bat wedged between the tablet and its case.<sup>6</sup> “I looked, and the bat was coming out of here, between the cover and the back of the pad.”<sup>7</sup> The 86-year-old had to squeeze the iPad cover to dislodge the bat outside his house.<sup>6</sup> Mr. Syvertson was bitten by the bat and described the bite as feeling like “a little bee sting.”<sup>6</sup> The next day he found the bat dead outside and became worried that he might have been exposed to rabies. “Then I knew I might have a problem,” Mr. Syvertson said.<sup>8</sup>

\* Other rabies virus variants included skunk, fox, and unknown.

<sup>†</sup> Includes 120 persons who died and five survivors with suspected rabies infection in 1970, 1977, 2004, 2009 and 2011. Cases in survivors were never laboratory confirmed; three cases are included in bat rabies virus variants because of epidemiologic links to bats and two are included in other (one unknown and one lab-acquired).

Mr. Syvertson said he called the state’s Fish and Game Department, and the officer he spoke to said, “I would like you to go to the hospital right away. Waste no time.” Following ACIP exposure recommendations, Mr. Syvertson received PEP. The bat was tested by the Fish and Game Department and shown to have rabies.<sup>6</sup> [O’Neil/p1/para 5 & 6]



Roy Syvertson, 86-year old New Hampshire resident, describing his unusual bat encounter.  
Courtesy of CTV News.<sup>8</sup>

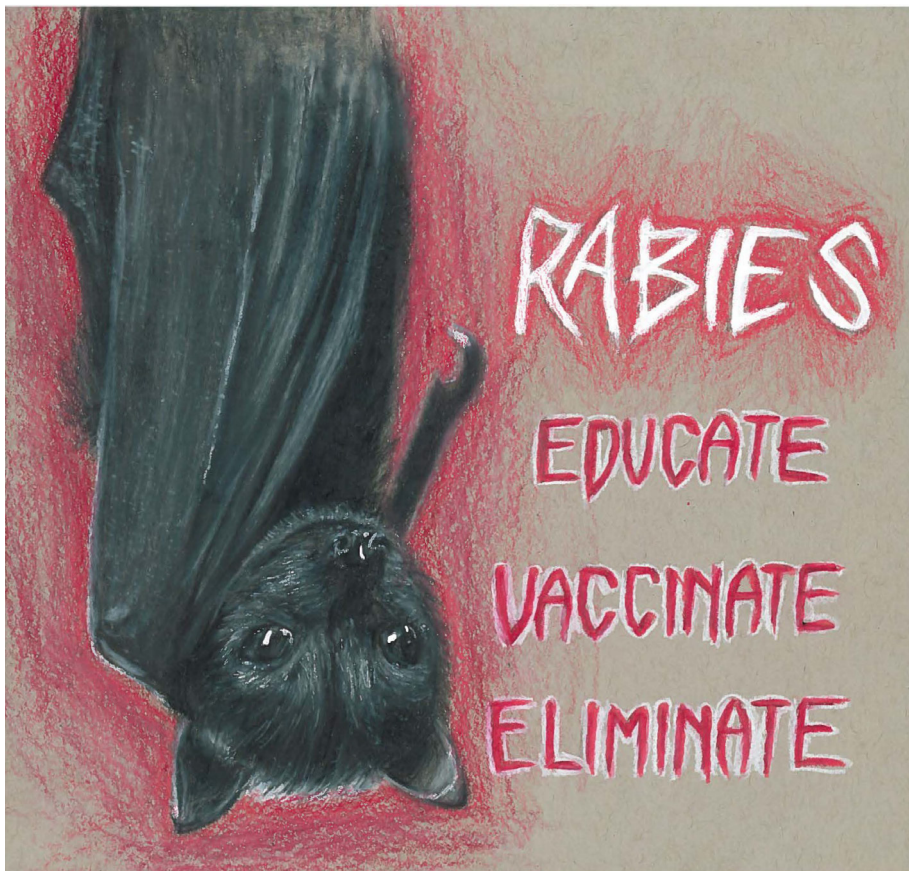
### *ACIP Recommendations Regarding Bats*

“Any direct contact between a human and a bat should be evaluated for an exposure. If the person can be reasonably certain a bite, scratch, or mucous membrane exposure did not occur, or if the bat is available for testing and is negative for presence of rabies virus, postexposure prophylaxis is not necessary. Other situations that might qualify as exposures include finding a bat in the same room as a person who might be unaware that a bite or direct contact had occurred (e.g., a deeply sleeping person awakens to find a bat in the room or an adult witnesses a bat in the room with a previously unattended child, mentally disabled person, or intoxicated person).”<sup>9</sup>



*Bottom Line: Seek PEP After Potential Bat Exposure*

The overall conclusion is that awareness needs to be increased around the risk presented by bats. Individuals who have had “bat-encounter” scenarios of any kind should be encouraged to seek PEP. To this end, Texas Health and Human Services has held a Rabies Awareness and Prevention Poster Contest for grade schools for the past 10 years. Last year’s winner focused on the risk of bats and the need to educate and treat.<sup>10</sup>



Rabies awareness and prevention poster first place contest winner, 2018  
(grade 6-8 category): Justin Billey, Riverwood Middle School, Kingwood, Texas.<sup>10</sup>

## ***Indication and Usage***

HYPERRAB® (rabies immune globulin [human]) is indicated for postexposure prophylaxis, along with rabies vaccine, for all persons suspected of exposure to rabies.

### Limitations of Use

Persons who have been previously immunized with rabies vaccine and have a confirmed adequate rabies antibody titer should receive only vaccine.

For unvaccinated persons, the combination of HYPERRAB and vaccine is recommended for both bite and nonbite exposures regardless of the time interval between exposure and initiation of postexposure prophylaxis.

Beyond 7 days (after the first vaccine dose), HYPERRAB is not indicated since an antibody response to vaccine is presumed to have occurred.

## ***Important Safety Information***

### **For infiltration and intramuscular use only.**

Severe hypersensitivity reactions may occur with HYPERRAB. Patients with a history of prior systemic allergic reactions to human immunoglobulin preparations are at a greater risk of developing severe hypersensitivity and anaphylactic reactions. Have epinephrine available for treatment of acute allergic symptoms, should they occur.

HYPERRAB is made from human blood and may carry a risk of transmitting infectious agents, eg, viruses, the variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (vCJD) agent, and, theoretically, the Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (CJD) agent.

The most common adverse reactions in >5% of subjects during clinical trials were injection-site pain, headache, injection-site nodule, abdominal pain, diarrhea, flatulence, nasal congestion, and oropharyngeal pain.

Do not administer repeated doses of HYPERRAB once vaccine treatment has been initiated as this could prevent the full expression of active immunity expected from the rabies vaccine.

Other antibodies in the HYPERRAB preparation may interfere with the response to live vaccines such as measles, mumps, polio, or rubella. Defer immunization with live vaccines for 4 months after HYPERRAB administration.

**Please see accompanying full Prescribing Information for HYPERRAB.  
You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the  
FDA. Visit [www.fda.gov/medwatch](http://www.fda.gov/medwatch), or call 1-800-FDA-1088.**

## REFERENCES

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2. Ma X, Monroe BP, Cleaton JM, et al. Rabies surveillance in the United States during 2017. *J Am Vet Med Assoc*. Dec 2018;253(12):1555–1568.
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**HIGHLIGHTS OF PRESCRIBING INFORMATION**

These highlights do not include all the information needed to use HYPERRAB® safely and effectively. See full prescribing information for HYPERRAB.

**HYPERRAB [rabies immune globulin (human)] solution for infiltration and intramuscular injection**

Initial U.S. Approval: 1974

**INDICATIONS AND USAGE**

HYPERRAB is a human rabies immune globulin indicated for postexposure prophylaxis, along with rabies vaccine, for all persons suspected of exposure to rabies. (1)

Limitations of Use:

Persons previously immunized with rabies vaccine that have a confirmed adequate rabies antibody titer should receive only vaccine.

For unvaccinated persons, the combination of HYPERRAB and vaccine is recommended for both bite and nonbite exposures regardless of the time interval between exposure and initiation of post-exposure prophylaxis.

Beyond 7 days (after the first vaccine dose), HYPERRAB is not indicated since an antibody response to vaccine is presumed to have occurred.

**DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION**

**For infiltration and intramuscular use only.**  
Administer HYPERRAB within 7 days after the first dose of rabies vaccine.

Postexposure prophylaxis, along with rabies vaccine, after suspected exposure to rabies (2.1)	HYPERRAB 20 IU/kg body weight OR 0.0665 mL/kg body weight  Single dose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Administer as soon as possible after exposure, preferably at the time of the first rabies vaccine dose.</li> <li>Infiltrate the full dose of HYPERRAB thoroughly in the area around and into the wound(s), if anatomically feasible.</li> <li>Inject the remainder, if any, intramuscularly.</li> </ul>
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**DOSAGE FORMS AND STRENGTHS**

300 IU/mL solution for injection supplied in 1 mL and 5 mL single-dose vials. (3)

**CONTRAINDICATIONS**

None. (4)

**WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS**

- Severe hypersensitivity reactions, including anaphylaxis, may occur with HYPERRAB. Have epinephrine available immediately to treat any acute severe hypersensitivity reactions. (5.1)
- HYPERRAB is made from human blood, it may carry a risk of transmitting infectious agents, e.g., viruses, the variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (vCJD) agent, and, theoretically, the Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (CJD) agent. (5.2)

**ADVERSE REACTIONS**

The most common adverse reactions in > 5% of subjects in clinical trials were injection site pain, headache, injection site nodule, abdominal pain, diarrhea, flatulence, nasal congestion, and oropharyngeal pain. (6.1)

To report SUSPECTED ADVERSE REACTIONS, contact Grifols Therapeutics LLC at 1-800-520-2807 or FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088 or [www.fda.gov/medwatch](http://www.fda.gov/medwatch).

**DRUG INTERACTIONS**

- Repeated dosing after administration of rabies vaccine may suppress the immune response to the vaccine. (7)
- Defer live vaccine (measles, mumps, rubella) administration for 4 months. (7)

See 17 for PATIENT COUNSELING INFORMATION.

Revised: 06/2018

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\*Sections or subsections omitted from the Full Prescribing Information are not listed.

**FULL PRESCRIBING INFORMATION****1 INDICATIONS AND USAGE**

HYPERRAB is a human rabies immune globulin indicated for postexposure prophylaxis, along with rabies vaccine, for all persons suspected of exposure to rabies.

Limitations of Use

Persons who have been previously immunized with rabies vaccine and have a confirmed adequate rabies antibody titer should receive only vaccine.<sup>1-3</sup>

For unvaccinated persons, the combination of HYPERRAB and vaccine is recommended for both bite and nonbite exposures regardless of the time interval between exposure and initiation of post-exposure prophylaxis.<sup>1-3</sup>

Beyond 7 days (after the first vaccine dose), HYPERRAB is not indicated since an antibody response to vaccine is presumed to have occurred.

**2 DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION**

**For infiltration and intramuscular use only.**

**The strength of HYPERRAB is 300 IU/mL.**

**2.1 Dose**

Use HYPERRAB in combination with rabies vaccine series to be effective. Do not use HYPERRAB alone for prevention.

Administer HYPERRAB within 7 days after the first dose of rabies vaccine.

**Rabies Postexposure Prophylaxis Schedule\***

<b>Vaccination Status</b>	<b>Treatment</b>	<b>Regiment†</b>
Not previously vaccinated	Wound cleansing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cleanse all wounds immediately and thoroughly with soap and water.</li> <li>Irrigate the wounds with a virucidal agent such as a povidone-iodine solution, if available.</li> </ul>
	HYPERRAB 20 IU/kg body weight OR 0.0665 mL/kg body weight  Single dose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Administer HYPERRAB as soon as possible after exposure, preferably at the time of the first vaccine dose.</li> <li>Infiltrate the full dose of HYPERRAB thoroughly in the area around and into the wound(s), if anatomically feasible. <i>[see Dosage and Administration (2.3)]</i></li> <li>Inject the remainder, if any, intramuscularly at an anatomical site distant from the site of vaccine administration. <i>[see Dosage and Administration (2.3)]</i></li> <li>Do not exceed the recommended dose of HYPERRAB, otherwise the active production of rabies antibody may be partially suppressed. <i>[see Drug Interactions (7)]</i></li> <li>Use separate syringes, needles, and anatomical injection sites for HYPERRAB and for rabies vaccine.</li> </ul>
	Rabies Vaccine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Administer rabies vaccine on day 0‡.</li> <li>Complete a rabies vaccination series for previously unvaccinated persons.</li> </ul>



Vaccination Status	Treatment	Regiment†
Previously vaccinated§	Wound cleansing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cleanse all wounds immediately and thoroughly with soap and water.</li> <li>• Irrigate the wounds with a virucidal agent such as a povidone-iodine solution, if available.</li> </ul>
	HYPERRAB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do not administer HYPERRAB. [see <i>Indications and Usage (1)</i>]</li> </ul>
	Rabies Vaccine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Administer rabies vaccine on day 0‡.</li> <li>• Complete a rabies vaccination series for previously vaccinated persons.†</li> </ul>

\* Adapted from reference 1.

† These regimens are applicable for all age groups, including children.

‡ Day 0 is the day the first dose of vaccine is administered. Refer to vaccine manufacturer's instructions or to the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP)<sup>1,3</sup> for appropriate rabies vaccine formulations, schedules and dosages.

§ Any person with a history of rabies vaccination and a documented history of antibody response to the prior vaccination.

## 2.2 Preparation

- Calculate the volume of HYPERRAB for the recommended dose of 20 IU/kg.
- Ensure the correct strength is used for the calculation. HYPERRAB is formulated with a strength of 300 IU/mL. The predecessor product, HYPERRAB® S/D [rabies immune globulin (human)] was formulated at 150 IU/mL. The volume required of HYPERRAB (300 IU/mL) to achieve the recommended dose of 20 IU/kg is approximately one half of that required for the previous HYPERRAB S/D (150 IU/mL).
- Visually inspect parenteral drug products for particulate matter and discoloration prior to administration, whenever solution and container permit. HYPERRAB is a clear or slightly opalescent, and colorless or pale yellow or light brown sterile solution.
- Do not use HYPERRAB if the product shows any sign of tampering. Notify Grifols Therapeutics LLC immediately [1-800-520-2807].
- Do not freeze. Do not use any solution that has been frozen.

## 2.3 Administration

- Administer HYPERRAB at the time of the first vaccine dose (day 0), but no later than day 7.<sup>1-3</sup>
- Infiltrate the full dose of HYPERRAB in the area around the wound, if anatomically feasible. Dilute HYPERRAB with an equal volume of dextrose, 5% (D5W), if additional volume is needed to infiltrate the entire wound. Do not dilute with normal saline.
- Inject the remainder, if any, of the HYPERRAB dose intramuscularly into the deltoid muscle of the upper arm or into the lateral thigh muscle, and distant from the site of vaccine administration.
- Do not administer HYPERRAB in the same syringe or needle or in the same anatomic site as vaccine.

## 3 DOSAGE FORMS AND STRENGTHS

HYPERRAB is a sterile, 300 IU/mL solution for injection supplied in 1 mL and 5 mL single- dose vials. The 1 mL vial is sufficient for a child weighing 15 kg. The 5 mL vial is sufficient for an adult weighing 75 kg.

HYPERRAB is standardized against the U.S. Standard Rabies Immune Globulin to contain a potency of  $\geq 300$  IU/mL. The U.S. unit of potency is equivalent to the international unit (IU) for rabies antibody.

## 4 CONTRAINDICATIONS

None.

## 5 WARNINGS AND PRECAUTIONS

### 5.1 Hypersensitivity Reactions

Severe hypersensitivity reactions may occur with HYPERRAB. Patients with a history of prior systemic allergic reactions to human immunoglobulin preparations are at a greater risk of developing severe hypersensitivity and anaphylactic reactions. Have epinephrine available for treatment of acute allergic symptoms, should they occur.

Patients with isolated immunoglobulin A (IgA) deficiency may develop severe hypersensitivity reactions to HYPERRAB, or subsequently, to the administration of blood products that contain IgA.

### 5.2 Transmissible Infectious Agents

HYPERRAB is made from human blood and may carry a risk of transmitting infectious agents, e.g., viruses, the variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (vCJD) agent, and, theoretically, the Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (CJD) agent. HYPERRAB is purified from human plasma obtained from healthy donors. When medicinal biological products are administered, infectious diseases due to transmission of pathogens cannot be totally excluded. However, in the case of products prepared from human plasma, the risk of transmission of pathogens is reduced by: (1) epidemiological controls on the donor population and selection of individual donors by a medical interview and screening of individual donations and plasma pools for viral infection markers; (2) testing of plasma for hepatitis C virus (HCV), human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), hepatitis B virus (HBV), HAV and human parvovirus (B19V) genomic material; and (3) manufacturing procedures with demonstrated capacity to inactivate/remove pathogens.

ALL infections thought by a physician possibly to have been transmitted by this product should be reported by the physician or other healthcare provider to Grifols Therapeutics LLC [1-800-520-2807].

## 6 ADVERSE REACTIONS

The most common adverse reactions in >5% of subjects during clinical trials were injection site pain, headache, injection site nodule, abdominal pain, diarrhea, flatulence, nasal congestion, and oropharyngeal pain.

### 6.1 Clinical Trials Experience

Because clinical trials are conducted under widely varying conditions, adverse reaction rates observed in the clinical trials of a drug cannot be directly compared to rates in the clinical trials of another drug and may not reflect the rates observed in practice.

The new formulation for HYPERRAB is manufactured using caprylate/ chromatography purification and has a rabies antibody concentration of 300 IU/mL. The previous formulation, HYPERRAB S/D, was manufactured using a solvent detergent process and had a rabies antibody concentration of 150 IU/mL. These products were evaluated in 2 clinical trials in a total of 20 healthy subjects using a 20 IU/kg single dose. The initial study evaluated the original 150 IU/mL HYPERRAB S/D in 8 subjects and the second study evaluated HYPERRAB in 12 subjects. The original study of HYPERRAB S/D reported headache (1/8; 13%).

In the study with HYPERRAB at 300 IU/mL, 5 subjects (5/12; 42%) experienced at least 1 adverse reaction. These were: injection site pain (4/12; 33%), injection site nodule (1/12; 8%), abdominal pain (1/12; 8%), diarrhea (1/12; 8%), flatulence (1/12; 8%), headache (1/12; 8%), nasal congestion (1/12; 8%), and oropharyngeal pain (1/12; 8%).

## 6.2 Postmarketing Experience

There are no data on the postmarketing use of HYPERRAB (300 IU/mL). The following adverse reactions have been identified during post approval use of the predecessor formulation, HYPERRAB S/D. Because these reactions are reported voluntarily from a population of uncertain size, it is not always possible to reliably estimate their frequency or establish a causal relationship to drug exposure.

Among patients treated with HYPERRAB S/D, cases of allergic/hypersensitivity reactions including anaphylaxis have been reported. Soreness at the site of injection (injection site pain) may be observed following intramuscular injection of immune globulins. Sensitization to repeated injections has occurred occasionally in immunoglobulin-deficient patients.

The following have been identified as the most frequently reported post-marketing adverse reactions:

Immune system disorder	Anaphylactic reaction*, hypersensitivity*
Nervous system disorders	Hypoesthesia
Gastrointestinal disorders	Nausea
Musculoskeletal and connective tissue disorders	Arthralgia, myalgia, pain in extremity

\*These reactions have been manifested by dizziness, paresthesia, rash, flushing, dyspnea, tachypnea, oropharyngeal pain, hyperhidrosis, and erythema

## 7 DRUG INTERACTIONS

- Do not administer repeated doses of HYPERRAB once vaccine treatment has been initiated as this could prevent the full expression of active immunity expected from the rabies vaccine.<sup>1</sup>
- Other antibodies in the HYPERRAB preparation may interfere with the response to live vaccines such as measles, mumps, polio or rubella. Defer immunization with live vaccines for 4 months after HYPERRAB administration.<sup>5</sup>

## 8 USE IN SPECIFIC POPULATIONS

### 8.1 Pregnancy

#### Risk Summary

There are no data with HYPERRAB® [rabies immune globulin (human)] use in pregnant women to inform a drug-associated risk. Animal reproduction studies have not been conducted with HYPERRAB. It is not known whether HYPERRAB can cause fetal harm when administered to a pregnant woman or can affect reproduction capacity. HYPERRAB should be given to a pregnant woman only if clearly needed. In the U.S. general population, the estimated backgrounds risk of major birth defect and miscarriage in clinically recognized pregnancies is 2-4% and 15-20%, respectively.

### 8.2 Lactation

#### Risk Summary

There is no information regarding the presence of HYPERRAB in human milk, the effect on the breastfed infant, or the effects on milk production. The developmental and health benefits of breastfeeding should be considered along with the mother's clinical need for HYPERRAB and any potential adverse effects on the breastfed infant from HYPERRAB.

### 8.4 Pediatric Use

Safety and effectiveness in the pediatric population have not been established.

### 8.5 Geriatric Use

Safety and effectiveness in geriatric population have not been established.

**10 OVERDOSAGE**

Because Rabies Immune Globulin (Human) may partially suppress active production of antibody in response to the rabies vaccine, do not give more than the recommended dose of rabies immune globulin (human).<sup>1</sup>

**11 DESCRIPTION**

HYPERRAB is a clear or slightly opalescent, and colorless or pale yellow or light brown sterile solution of human antirabies immune globulin for infiltration and intramuscular administration. HYPERRAB contains no preservative. HYPERRAB is prepared from pools of human plasma collected from healthy donors (hyperimmunized with rabies vaccine) by a combination of cold ethanol fractionation, caprylate precipitation and filtration, caprylate incubation, anion-exchange chromatography, nanofiltration and low pH incubation. HYPERRAB consists of 15 to 18% protein at pH 4.1 to 4.8 in 0.16 to 0.26 M glycine. The product is standardized against the U.S. Standard Rabies Immune Globulin to contain a potency value of not less than 300 IU/mL. The U.S. unit of potency is equivalent to the international unit (IU) for rabies antibody.

When medicinal biological products are administered, infectious diseases due to transmission of pathogens cannot be totally excluded. However, in the case of products prepared from human plasma, the risk of transmission of pathogens is reduced by epidemiological surveillance of the donor population and selection of individual donors by medical interview; testing of individual donations and plasma pools; and the presence in the manufacturing processes of steps with demonstrated capacity to inactivate/remove pathogens.

In the manufacturing process of HYPERRAB, there are several steps with the capacity for virus inactivation or removal.<sup>6</sup> The main steps of the manufacturing process that contribute to the virus clearance capacity are as follows:

- Caprylate precipitation/depth filtration
- Caprylate incubation
- Depth filtration
- Column chromatography
- Nanofiltration
- Low pH final container incubation

To provide additional assurance of the pathogen safety of the final product, the capacity of the HYPERRAB manufacturing process to remove and/or inactivate viruses has been demonstrated by laboratory spiking studies on a scaled down process model using a wide range of viruses with diverse physicochemical properties.

The combination of all of the above mentioned measures provides the final product with a high margin of safety from the potential risk of transmission of infectious viruses.

The caprylate/chromatography manufacturing process was also investigated for its capacity to decrease the infectivity of an experimental agent of transmissible spongiform encephalopathy (TSE), considered as a model for the variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (vCJD), and Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (CJD) agents.<sup>6</sup> These studies provide reasonable assurance that low levels of vCJD/CJD agent infectivity, if present in the starting material, would be removed by the caprylate/chromatography manufacturing process.

**12 CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY****12.1 Mechanism of Action**

HYPERRAB provides immediate, passive, rabies virus neutralizing antibody coverage until the previously unvaccinated patient responds to rabies vaccine by actively producing antibodies.<sup>1</sup>

## 12.2 Pharmacodynamics

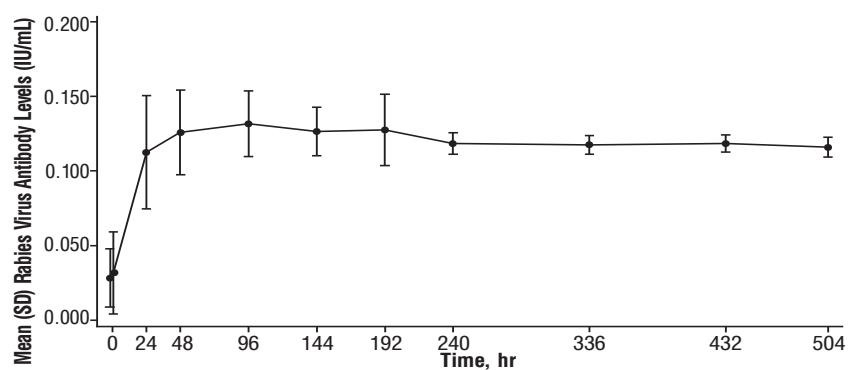
The usefulness of prophylactic rabies antibody in preventing rabies in humans when administered immediately after exposure was dramatically demonstrated in a group of persons bitten by a rabid wolf in Iran.<sup>7,8</sup> Similarly, beneficial results were later reported from the U.S.S.R.<sup>9</sup> Studies coordinated by WHO (World Health Organization) helped determine the optimal conditions under which antirabies serum of equine origin and rabies vaccine can be used in man.<sup>10-13</sup> These studies showed that antirabies serum can interfere to a variable extent with the active immunity induced by the vaccine, but could be minimized by booster doses of vaccine after the end of the usual dosage series.

Preparation of rabies immune globulin of human origin with adequate potency was reported by Cabasso et al.<sup>14</sup> In carefully controlled clinical studies, this globulin was used in conjunction with rabies vaccine of duck-embryo origin (DEV).<sup>14,15</sup> These studies determined that a human globulin dose of 20 IU/kg of rabies antibody, given simultaneously with the first DEV dose, resulted in amply detectable levels of passive rabies antibody 24 hours after injection in all recipients. The injections produced minimal, if any, interference with the subject's endogenous antibody response to DEV.

Subsequently, human diploid cell rabies vaccines (HDCV) prepared from tissue culture fluids containing rabies virus have received substantial clinical evaluation in Europe and the United States.<sup>14-22</sup> In a study in adult volunteers, the administration of Rabies Immune Globulin (Human) did not interfere with antibody formation induced by HDCV when given in a dose of 20 IU per kilogram body weight simultaneously with the first dose of vaccine.<sup>21</sup>

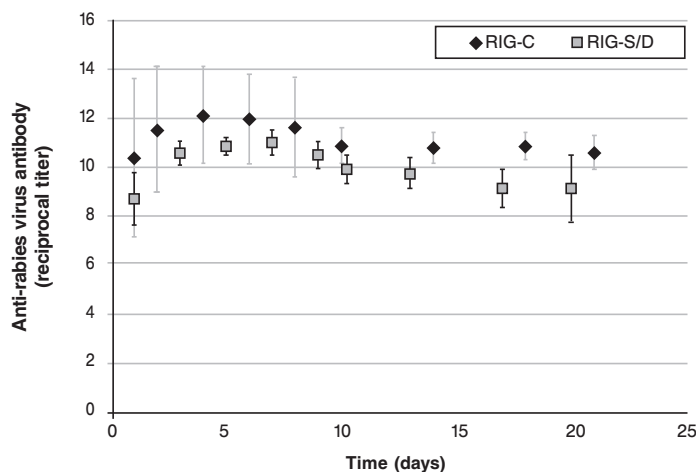
## 12.3 Pharmacokinetics

In a clinical study of 12 healthy human subjects receiving a 20 IU/kg intramuscular dose of HYPERRAB detectable passive rabies neutralizing antibody was present by 24 hours and persisted through the 21 day follow-up evaluation period. Figure 1 shows the mean levels of rabies virus antibodies in IU/mL across the 21 day evaluation period and indicates that the titer remains stable during this period. This level of passive rabies neutralizing antibody is similar to that reported in the literature for administration of human rabies immune globulin, and is clinically important because it provides interim protection until the host immune response to rabies vaccine produces definitive protective titers of neutralizing rabies antibody (therefore the rabies vaccine series is also essential).<sup>23-24</sup>



**Figure 1: Mean (Standard Deviation) Rabies Virus Neutralizing Antibody Levels (IU/mL) versus Time following a Single 20 IU/kg Dose of HYPERRAB (300 IU/mL) by Intramuscular Injection**

The previous formulation, HYPERRAB® S/D [rabies immune globulin (human)], was studied in 8 healthy subjects over 21 days. As with the new formulation, rabies neutralizing antibody was present by 24 hours and persisted through the 21 day follow up period (Figure 2).



**Figure 2: Reciprocal of Anti-Rabies Virus Neutralizing Antibody Titer Following a Single 20 IU/kg Dose of HYPERRAB (300 IU/mL; RIG-C) or HYPERRAB S/D (150 IU/mL; RIG-S/D) Product (mean [standard deviation])**

#### 14 CLINICAL STUDIES

HYPERRAB was administered to a total of 20 healthy adult subjects in two clinical trials. [see *Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)*] A single intramuscular dose of 20 IU/kg HYPERRAB (12 subjects) or HYPERRAB S/D (8 subjects) was administered and rabies neutralizing antibody titers were monitored in serum for 21 days. Administration of both HYPERRAB formulations resulted in detectable titers of neutralizing antibodies to the rabies virus that persisted throughout the 21 day study period (Figure 2).

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**16 HOW SUPPLIED/STORAGE AND HANDLING**

HYPERRAB is supplied in 1 mL and 5 mL single dose vials with a potency value of not less than 300 IU/mL.

HYPERRAB contains no preservative and is not made with natural rubber latex.

<u>NDC Number</u>	<u>Size</u>
13533-318-01	1 mL
13533-318-05	5 ml

- Store HYPERRAB at (2 to 8°C, 36 to 46°F).
- Do not freeze.
- Do not use after expiration date.

**17 PATIENT COUNSELING INFORMATION**

Discuss the risks and benefits of this product with the patient, before prescribing or administering it to the patient.

Inform the patient who is allergic to human immune globulin products that severe, potentially life-threatening allergic reactions could occur. *[see Warnings and Precautions (5.1)]*

Inform the patient who is deficient in IgA the potential for developing anti-IgA antibodies and severe potentially life threatening allergic reactions. *[see Warnings and Precautions (5.1)]*

Inform the patient that HYPERRAB is made from human plasma and may carry a risk of transmitting infectious agents that can cause disease. While the risk that HYPERRAB can transmit an infectious agent has been reduced by screening plasma donors for prior exposure, testing donated plasma, and including manufacturing steps with the capacity to inactivate and/or remove pathogens, the patient should report any symptoms that concern them. *[see Warnings and Precautions (5.2)]*

# GRIFOLS

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