

Human Rabies Immune Globulin (HRIG) Administration Considerations—The ART of HRIG

Quiz

- 1. How much of the HRIG dose should you administer into and around the wound?*
 - As much as possible
 - Approximately half
- 2. If there is remaining volume of HRIG, where should be administered?*
 - Deltoid same side as vaccine
 - Deltoid opposite side as vaccine

If you weren't entirely certain of the answers, you are not alone! When it comes to HRIG administration, factors such as selection of wound-site dosage and anatomical site for the remaining HRIG can vary according to situations and it is not always straightforward for HCPs working in emergency rooms (ERs). In general, though, as we will discuss in this article, it is recommended that as much HRIG as possible should be administered into and around the wound, and if there is any remaining HRIG it should be administered collaterally to the side of vaccination.¹

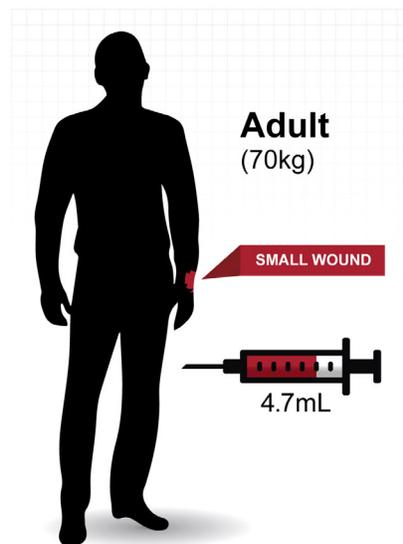
As you know, rabies is almost always fatal after a patient becomes symptomatic. Appropriate postexposure prophylaxis (PEP) is critical to prevent central nervous system infection and subsequent death. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommend that humans who are exposed to the rabies virus should receive PEP care consisting of wound cleansing, infiltration of HRIG, and rabies vaccination.¹ CDC guidelines recommend that HRIG be administered at a dose of 20 IU/kg body weight, with the full dose infiltrated into and around the wound(s), if anatomically feasible. Any remaining volume from the HRIG dose should be administered by intramuscular injection at an anatomical site distant from the site of vaccination, usually in the deltoid on the side opposite the vaccination.¹

Therefore, depending on patient body size and wound size, the amount of HRIG to be administered and the amount that can be administered into and around the wound is going to vary. The clinical concerns presented by small patients with large wounds might be different from concerns regarding large patients with small wounds. Consider the following situation and corresponding clinical challenge outlined in Figure 1 below.²

Figure 1: Administering HyperRAB Needed to Infiltrate Wound²

CONCERN:

Compartment syndrome



Consider the following scenario and clinical challenge:

For an **adult** who weighs 70 kg, 1400 IU of HRIG would be the proper dose. This dose results in 4.7 mL of a higher potency product formulated at 300 IU/mL. As the wound is small, the clinical challenge is administration of the **full dose**, while avoiding compartment syndrome. Therefore, the overall volume required to complete the dose becomes an important consideration.

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.

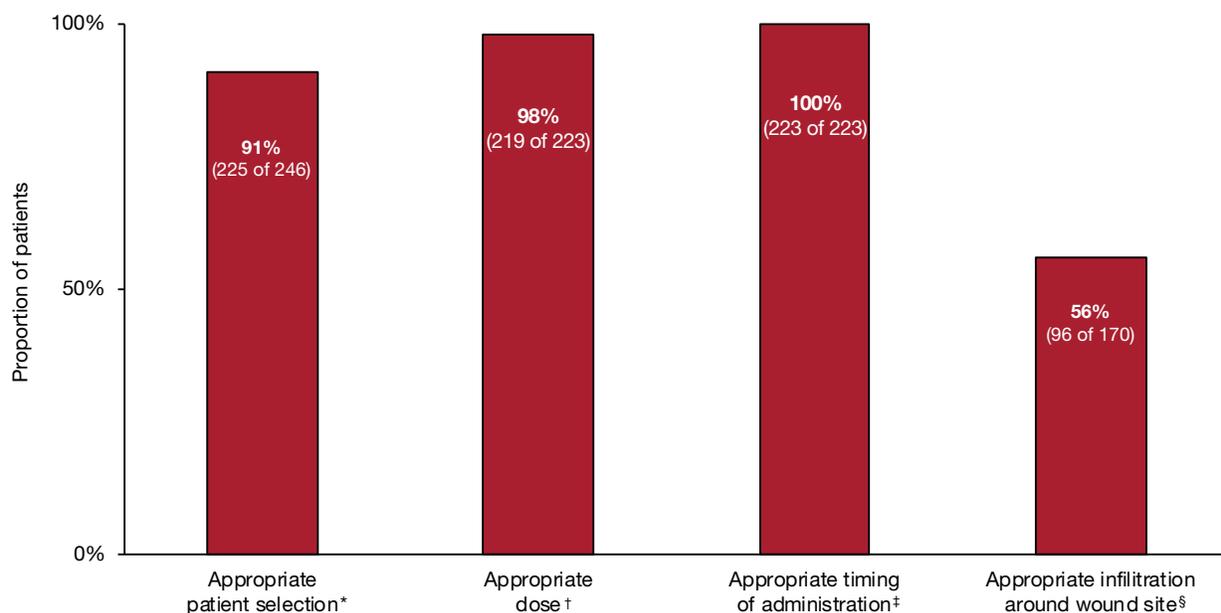
Please see Important Safety Information at the end of this article and accompanying full Prescribing Information for HyperRAB[®] (rabies immune globulin [human]).

“There is a dose-response effect with HRIG administration into and around the wound. If the dose is too low, the HRIG concentration is inadequate to prevent rabies virus infection and death may result. But, if the volume of the HRIG infusion required to deliver an effective dose is too large for the specific wound area, such as a finger, the patient may be at risk of compartment syndrome.”

—Charles E. Rupprecht, VMD, MS, PhD

Given the importance of this recommendation, it is concerning that failure to infiltrate HRIG into and around wounds (when anatomically feasible) was the largest area of nonadherence to guideline recommendations observed in studies and surveys. Based on a recent retrospective, cross-sectional study of 246 patients who received PEP care at a multi-hospital system, only 56% of patients received proper HRIG infiltration at wound sites.³ Adherence to other guideline recommendations for HRIG, including patient selection, dosing, and timing, were shown to be very high in this study with a rate of 91%, 98%, and 100%, respectively.³ (Figure 2) This confirms an earlier study of 110 PEP patients showing that the volume of HRIG infiltrated into and around the wounds was less than adequate in 42% of the cases evaluated, as revealed by surveys of approximately 150 ER personnel.⁴

Figure 2: Proportion of patients who achieved adherence to guideline recommendations for HRIG patient selection, dosing, timing, and anatomical site of administration in rabies PEP.³



* Proportion of patients who were treated according to guideline recommendations on patient selection for rabies immune globulin administration.
 † Proportion of patients who received a rabies immune globulin dose that was within 10% of the US Food and Drug Administration-approved dose of 20 IU/kg.
 ‡ Proportion of patients who received rabies immune globulin within 7 days of the first dose of rabies vaccine.
 § Proportion of patients who received rabies immune globulin infiltration into and around the wound among patients who had a wound and documented rabies immune globulin administration sites.

If there is any remaining volume of HRIG after administration into and around the wound, it should be administered at a site distal from the site of vaccination, usually in the deltoid on the opposite side of the body from the vaccine. This recommendation is based on the fact that HRIG can affect development of antibodies and immunological response to the vaccine and may neutralize its effectiveness.^{1,5}

Consequences of PEP treatment failure due to inadequate HRIG administration have been reported. Primary reasons for fatalities reported in these case studies assessing such failure include: ^{6,7}

- Lack or delay of RIG administration
- Inadequate infiltration of RIG into wound (eg, injected only intramuscularly and not into wounds or not all bite wounds)
- Poor quality of RIG or vaccine

The Need for ER Leaders to Communicate

ER physicians—more than other ER personnel*—understand the importance of HRIG administration volume in ensuring an adequate amount of rabies antibodies into the wound site. As many ER physicians delegate the task of HRIG administration—two-thirds of ER physicians report HRIG is administered by a nurse—communicating the importance of administering as much as possible into and around the wound site is important.⁸

Talk to those you would trust to administer HRIG therapy to exposed individuals and ask them: How much of the RIG dose should you administer into and around the wound? As much as possible, or approximately half? If there is remaining volume of RIG, where should it be administered? Deltoid same side as vaccine, or deltoid opposite side of vaccine? Communication is key for good ER leadership.

“What I tell emergency department people who administer HRIG is, ‘Do the best you can.’ That’s the mantra. Do the right thing without causing harm in the process.”

—Stephen J. Scholand, MD

*Other ER personnel not directly involved in patient care, such as hospital pharmacists.

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, or call 1-800-FDA-1088.**

REFERENCES

1. Rupprecht CE, Briggs D, Brown CM, et al. Use of a reduced (4-dose) vaccine schedule for postexposure prophylaxis to prevent human rabies. *MMWR*. March 2010;59(RR02):1-9.
2. World Health Organization (WHO). Rabies immunoglobulins (RIG) recommendations questions. Appendix II: Evidence Profile. Available at: https://www.who.int/immunization/sage/meetings/2017/october/3_Appendix_II_WG_RABIES_evidence_profiles.pdf?ua=1. Accessed Aug 22, 2019.
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7. Deshmukh DG, Damle AS, Bajaj JK, et al. Fatal rabies despite post-exposure prophylaxis. *Indian Journal of Medical Microbiology*. 2011;29:178-191.
8. Data on file. Grifols. Hypermunes ATU 2019. Full Report. Prepared by KJT Group. June 2019.

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"> Administer as soon as possible after exposure, preferably at the time of the first rabies vaccine dose. Infiltrate the full dose of HYPERRAB thoroughly in the area around and into the wound(s), if anatomically feasible. Inject the remainder, if any, intramuscularly.
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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.

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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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.¹⁻³

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.¹⁻³

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*

Vaccination Status	Treatment	Regiment†
Not previously vaccinated	Wound cleansing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cleanse all wounds immediately and thoroughly with soap and water. • Irrigate the wounds with a virucidal agent such as a povidone-iodine solution, if available.
	HYPERRAB 20 IU/kg body weight OR 0.0665 mL/kg body weight Single dose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administer HYPERRAB as soon as possible after exposure, preferably at the time of the first vaccine dose. • 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> • 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> • 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> • Use separate syringes, needles, and anatomical injection sites for HYPERRAB and for rabies vaccine.
	Rabies Vaccine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administer rabies vaccine on day 0‡. • Complete a rabies vaccination series for previously unvaccinated persons.

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

* 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)^{1,3} 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 7.¹⁻³
- 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 ≥ 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.¹
- 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.⁵

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).¹

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.⁶ 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.⁶ 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.¹

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.^{7,8} Similarly, beneficial results were later reported from the U.S.S.R.⁹ 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.¹⁰⁻¹³ 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.¹⁴ In carefully controlled clinical studies, this globulin was used in conjunction with rabies vaccine of duck-embryo origin (DEV).^{14,15} 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.¹⁴⁻²² 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.²¹

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).²³⁻²⁴

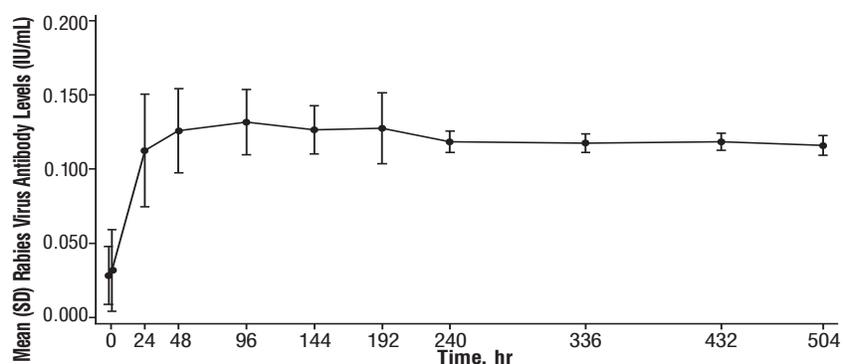


Figure 1: Mean (Standard Deviation) Rabies Virus Neutralizing Antibody Levels (IU/mL) versus Time following a Single 20 IU/kg Dose of HYPERRAB (300 IU/mL) by Intramuscular Injection

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).

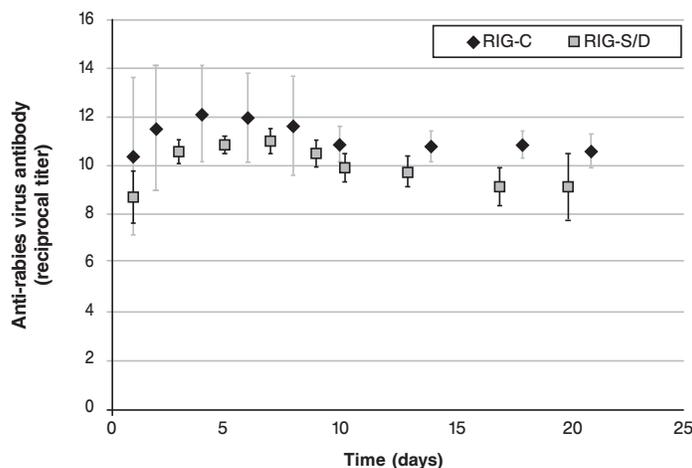


Figure 2: Reciprocal of Anti-Rabies Virus Neutralizing Antibody Titer Following a Single 20 IU/kg Dose of HYPERRAB (300 IU/mL; RIG-C) or HYPERRAB S/D (150 IU/mL; RIG-S/D) Product (mean [standard deviation])

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)]*

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Research Triangle Park, NC 27709 USA
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