



RABIES VACCINE AND IMMUNOGLOBULIN SUPPLY

Wednesday, August 20th, 2025

Key Information

- Ontario is currently experiencing a shortage of rabies vaccine & rabies immunoglobulin
- There has been an increase in reported exposures to bats, resulting in significant demand for rabies post-exposure prophylaxis (rPEP)
- If an individual presents with a possible rabies exposure:
 1. Conduct a thorough risk assessment
 - a. [Management of Potential Rabies Exposure Guideline](#)
 - b. [Rabies Vaccines: Canadian Immunization Guide](#) (bat exposure section updated in 2025)
 2. Contact the health unit prior to administration of rPEP
 - a. 705-743-1000 (M-F, 8:30am-4:30pm)
 - b. 705-760-8127 (outside regular business hours)

Further Information

Ontario is currently experiencing a shortage of rabies biologicals (i.e., Imo-vax-Rabies and Rabavert) & rabies immunoglobulins (i.e., HyperRAB and KamRAB). The Ministry of Health is working to secure additional supply. There has been an increase in reported human exposures to bats throughout the province this year; however, the percent test positivity for bats is lower than this time last year.

All suspect rabies exposures and potential clinical cases of rabies must be reported immediately to PPH, using the appropriate [reporting form](#). The Government of Canada updated guidance to clarify a [bat exposure](#) (i.e., when there has been direct contact between a person and a bat, or when saliva from the bat enters an open wound or mucous membrane).

Please conduct a thorough assessment, then contact the health unit prior to administering any rPEP. During business hours (8:30am-4:30pm, M-F), reports can be faxed to 705-743-1203 or via phone at 705-743-1000. Outside of business hours, reports must be made by phoning 705-760-8127.

Resources

- [Memo from the Chief Medical Officer of Health](#) – Ministry of Health
- [Potential Rabies Exposure and Prophylaxis Report](#) – PPH
- [Management of Potential Rabies Exposure Guideline](#) – Ministry of Health
- [Rabies Vaccines: Canadian Immunization Guide](#) – Government of Canada

Did You Know We Merged?

As of January 1, 2025, the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit and Peterborough Public Health merged to form the Haliburton Kawartha Northumberland Peterborough Health Unit (legal name only).

Efforts are currently underway to develop an operational name and a brand identity. In the meantime, you will see logos and

HCP ADVISORY



HALIBURTON, KAWARTHA,
PINE RIDGE DISTRICT
HEALTH UNIT



Peterborough
Public Health

other marketing material from both legacy organizations. You may also see references and documents using the legal name Haliburton Kawartha Northumberland Peterborough Health Unit.

Partners and members of the public should continue to engage with their local public health offices as usual until otherwise directed.

From the Desks of:

Dr. Thomas Piggott, MD, PhD, CCFP, FRCPC
Medical Officer of Health

AND

Dr. Natalie Bocking, MD, MIPH, CCFP, FRCPC
Deputy Medical Officer of Health