**RABIES VACCINES**

Humans get rabies when they are bitten or scratched by an infected animal, including certain species of bats and monkeys.

The rabies virus infects the central nervous system. After infection, there may be no symptoms initially, but eventually, as the virus spreads along the nerves to the brain, the infection causes death or severe neurologic problems.

Rabies is present around the world. In the United States, stray dogs and cats, wild animals such as bats, raccoons, skunks and foxes are the most common sources of human rabies infection.

**Pre-exposure rabies vaccines** are recommended for:

* Veterinarians, animal handlers and veterinary students
* Spelunkers (people who explore caves)
* Laboratory workers who work with the rabies virus or vaccine
* International travelers who are likely to come in contact with animals in parts of the world where rabies is common and immediate access to appropriate care is limited.

**Post-exposure rabies vaccines:** when needed, these have to be provided in a timely manner, and a certain schedule has to be followed.

International travelers sometimes have had to be evacuated due to lack of adequate availability of treatment after exposure to a rabid animal

CONTACT US FOR FURTHER QUESTIONS