

Rabies Post Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) Guidelines in Response to Current Vaccine Shortage

25 August 2008



ALERT – Supplies of RabAvert® are limited. To ensure that thorough risk assessments are conducted, Novartis is now requiring that health care providers confer with public health officials and obtain a confirmation code before ordering vaccine doses for PEP.

STEP BY STEP GUIDELINES FOR PROVIDERS

- 1** Consult the rabies PEP Protocol for People Exposed to Mammals or the ACIP Human Rabies Prevention guidelines to determine whether there has been a potential rabies exposure.



[MDCH Decision Tree](#)



[MMWR/ACIP Guidelines](#)

- 2** Since PEP is an urgent medical issue but not an emergency, it can be delayed until animal rabies testing or clinical observation is completed: Determine whether an animal is available for testing or observation.
- 3** Call your local public health department to discuss individual exposure, risk assessment, and to coordinate animal testing or observation if possible. If your local health department is unavailable, please call MDCH Communicable Disease staff (517-335-8165 regular hours) (517-335-9030 after hours) directly.
- 4** If risk assessment indicates the need for PEP, MDCH staff will provide the Health Care Provider with the Novartis access code for vaccine ordering.