

# Rabies is a vaccine-preventable disease that kills almost 60,000 people every year<sup>1-3</sup>



Rabies is viral zoonotic disease that is almost always fatal once symptoms appear.<sup>1,4</sup>



Rabies is transmitted through scratches or bites from rabies-infected animals.<sup>1,4</sup>



Domestic dogs are responsible for 99% of rabies cases worldwide.<sup>1</sup>

#### Prevention measures include:<sup>4</sup>



Avoid contact with wild and domestic animals (e.g. dogs, cats, bats,\* monkeys) in rabiesendemic areas. \*Bats should be avoided worldwide.



Education on first aid treatment following animal bites or scratches.



Rabies vaccination.

## Rabies vaccination is available pre- and post-rabies exposure.<sup>4</sup>

#### Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP)

Pre-exposure rabies vaccine is recommended for individuals at high risk of rabies exposure including individuals at occupational risk, and travellers to rabies-endemic countries.<sup>4</sup>

#### Pre-exposure rabies vaccination may provide benefits such as:<sup>5,6</sup>



Simplifying PEP by eliminating the need for rabies immunoglobulins and decreasing the number of post-exposure doses required.



Offering some level of protection in cases of unrecognised exposure or limited access to treatment.<sup>†</sup>



Enabling a faster antibody response to post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP).

<sup>1</sup>In cases of suspected or confirmed exposure, post-exposure care and vaccination should be administered systematically and as soon as possible, even if pre-exposure rabies vaccination was received.<sup>56</sup>

## Post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP)

Individuals who have been exposed to rabies<sup>‡</sup> should seek prompt wound management, administration of post-exposure rabies vaccine, and in some cases, rabies immunoglobulin.<sup>4</sup>

\*There are 3 categories of rabies exposure that require various levels of PEP^4 'View the Australian Immunisation Handbook for complete information about rabies PEP.<sup>4</sup>

Category 1	Touching or feeding animals, animal licks on intact skin, or exposure to animal blood, urine, or faeces.	Does not require any PEP if the contact history is reliable.
Category 2	Animal nibbling of uncovered skin, or minor scratches or abrasions without bleeding.	Post-exposure rabies vaccination should be administered, and for individuals who have not been previously immunised with a pre-exposure rabies vaccine within 3 months of exposure, rabies immunoglobulin is required.
Category 3	Single or multiple transdermal bites or scratches; contamination of mucous membrane or broken skin with saliva from animal licks.	Post-exposure rabies vaccination should be administered, and rabies immunoglobulin is required.

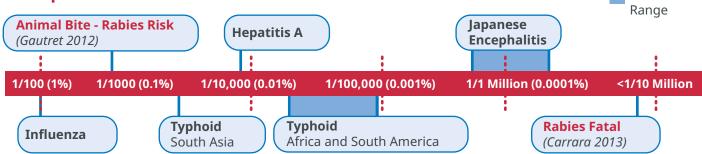
Please refer to the Product Information for the specific rabies vaccine for information on approved dosing schedules.



## Rabies remains a deadly, and yet often underestimated threat for travellers<sup>5-8</sup>

# Vaccine-preventable disease travel-health risks: estimated incidence per month of stay in lower-income countries<sup>9-11</sup>

#### Risk per month for non-immune travellers



Adapted from Steffen R, et al. 2018.9

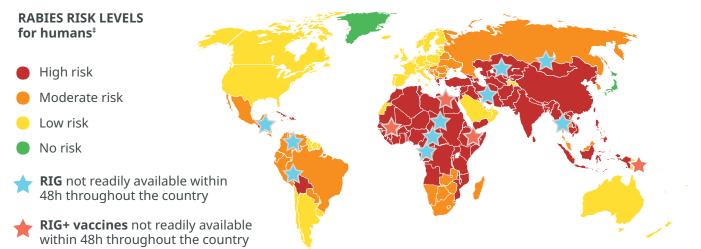
Even if the fatal rabies rate is estimated at two cases per 10 million individuals, the number of at-risk animal bites remains high among travellers, with an estimated rate of 4 cases per 1,000 individuals per month of stay in a rabies-endemic country<sup>10,11</sup>

Travellers to rabies-endemic areas should discuss rabies risk with their health professional to guide whether rabies PrEP is required.<sup>4</sup>

#### Many travellers underestimate the risk of rabies, and do not seek preareas rabies vaccination<sup>\*12</sup> – among travellers to high risk rabies-endemic areas, only 8% received rabies PrEP.<sup>†7</sup>

\*According to interviews with Australian travellers.<sup>12</sup>

<sup>†</sup>According to a survey of travellers and travel clinics from Canada, Germany, Sweden, and the UK.<sup>7</sup>



<sup>†</sup>From WHO International Travel and Health. Distribution of risk levels for humans contracting rabies, worldwide, 2018<sup>7</sup>

Abbreviations: PEP: post-exposure prophylaxis; PrEP: pre-exposure prophylaxis; RIG: rabies immunoglobulin; WHO: World Health Organisation.

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8. Christiansen AH, et al. J Travel Med. 2016;23(4):taw022. 9. Steffen R. J Travel Med. 2018;25(1):tay046. 10. Carrara P, et al. PLoS Negl Trop Dis. 2013;7(5):e2209. 11. Gautret P, et al. Vaccine. 2012;30(2):126-133. 12. Wang J, et al. Ann Tour Res. 2019;78:102743.

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Risk Level