

► Rabies Vaccine



"Vaccination is good protection"

This vaccine protects you against rabies. Rabies is a deadly disease caused by a virus found in some animals. After possible exposure to rabies, you should wash the wound with water and soap for several minutes.

DISEASES

Rabies is spread by:

- The bite of an animal with rabies or contact of a wound or mucous membrane with its saliva.

Rabies causes:

- Pain and swelling around the bite
- Agitation
- Difficulty swallowing
- Seizures

Possible complications of rabies include:

- Death in all cases if no vaccination takes place.

The vaccine is given in several doses. It is very important that you receive each dose of vaccine to ensure maximum effectiveness.

Next vaccinations: _____

The Vaccine

You need vaccine if you have been bitten by an animal that may have rabies or a wound or mucous membrane that has been in contact with its saliva. It may also be given if you risk being exposed to the rabies virus in your work or travels.

Rabies vaccine is safe.

EFFECTS

Possible side effects

- You may experience tenderness, redness, swelling, or itching around the injection site (25% of cases).
- The vaccine may cause other reactions such as headaches, nausea, stomach cramps, muscle pains, and dizziness (20% of cases).

What to do

- Apply a cold, damp cloth to the injection site.
- See a health care provider depending on the severity of symptoms.

Severe allergic reactions are rare (1 per 10,000 doses).

Should a severe allergic reaction occur, it would begin immediately and the person who gave the vaccine will be able to treat it. That's why you should stay on site for at least 15 minutes after the vaccination.

For more information, ask the person who gave you the vaccine or another health care provider.