



Rabies and Australian bat lyssavirus exposures HOW TO ACCESS POST-EXPOSURE PROPHYLAXIS (PEP): INFORMATION FOR HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS IN METROPOLITAN PERTH*

- Rabies and Australian bat lyssavirus (ABLV) exposures should be managed as per the Rabies and other Lyssaviruses chapter in the [Australian Immunisation Handbook](#) and the [CDNA National Guidelines for Public Health Units](#).
- All use of rabies post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) stock needs approval by public health. If you have cache government stock held on site, you must seek approval before administering PEP.
- Please refer to the process below for guidance. Contact public health on 9222 8588 or email ContactMCDC@health.wa.gov.au (during office hours) or 9328 0553 (after hours).
- Outside of metropolitan Perth, contact your [local public health unit](#) (during office hours) or 9328 0553 (after hours) to access rabies PEP.

Patient with rabies/ABLV exposure attends healthcare provider



- Apply first aid and [wound management](#), as required
- Obtain exposure details (including country, animal, date of incident, description of incident & wound)
 - Obtain medical information (including patient weight, egg allergy and immunocompromise)
- Obtain date/time of any rabies vaccination and immunoglobulin given (before and after this incident)
 - Consider tetanus & other infections

During office hours Mon-Fri
 8am-5pm excluding public
 holidays



Outside of
 office hours



Call **MCDC on 9222 8588** to notify exposure & discuss PEP requirements. To trigger review and approval, complete MCDC online form: <https://redcap.link/rabiesform>

Contact the **On-Call Duty Officer** at the WA Department of Health on **9328 0553** and request to speak with the **on-call Public Health Physician** to notify exposure & discuss PEP requirements.



Public health (MCDC during office hours or on-call Public Health Physician after hours) provides PEP advice, recommendations and formal approval.

Site holds
 government stock



Site does NOT hold
 government stock



Requesting clinician communicates plan with patient and administers PEP from cache stock**
 Restock triggered through MCDC online form
(during office hours only)
 Urgent restock out of hours can be triggered by Public Health on-call

Public health orders stock for delivery through Onelink (urgent or non-urgent).
 Site communicates plan with patient and administers PEP once received**

*Excluding travel clinics
 ** Refer to [Administration of rabies vaccine and HRIG for post-exposure prophylaxis](#)