

Summary of rabies risk assessment and post-exposure treatment

Please use in conjunction with [PHE Guidelines on managing rabies post-exposure](#)

1. Determine the combined country / animal risk

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/rabies-risks-by-country>

2. Determine the category of exposure

Category	Terrestrial mammals	Bats
1	No physical contact with saliva	No physical contact (i.e. no direct contact with the bat's saliva)
2	Minimal contact with saliva and/or unable to infiltrate wound with HRIG if needed	Uncertain physical contact (i.e. where there has been no observed direct physical contact (with saliva) but this could have occurred)
3	Direct contact with saliva	Direct physical contact with bat's saliva

3. Determine the composite rabies risk

Country/Animal risk	Category 1 exposure	Category 2 exposure	Category 3 exposure
No risk	Green	Green	Green
Low risk	Green	Amber	Amber
High risk	Green	Amber	Red

4. Determine the post-exposure treatment required

Composite rabies risk	Post-exposure treatment		
	Non immunised/ partially immunised	Fully immunised	Immunosuppressed
Green	None	None	None
Amber	Four doses of vaccine d0, d3, d7, d21	Two doses of vaccine d0, d3-7	HRIG and five doses of vaccine d0, d3, d7, d14 and d30
Red	HRIG* and four doses of vaccine d0, d3, d7, and d21	Two doses of vaccine d0, d3-7	HRIG and five doses of vaccine d0, d3, d7, d14 and d30

*HRIG not required if more than 7 days after first dose of vaccine, or more than 1 day after the second dose or for partially immunized patients (unless immunosuppressed)