



BC Centre for Disease Control  
Provincial Health Services Authority

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**Date: July 25, 2023**

**Administrative Circular: 2023:21**

**ATTN:** Medical Health Officers and Branch Offices

Directors of Health Protection

Communicable Disease Environmental Health Officers

Public Health Nursing Administrators and Assistant Administrators

Holders of Communicable Disease Control Manuals

**Re: Update to Communicable Disease Control Manual, Chapter 1: Rabies**

## **Chapter 1 – Communicable Disease Control**

### **Rabies**

- URL Page 16 – broken link in footnote “requisition”, new link:  
<http://www.bccdc.ca/resource-gallery/Documents/Guidelines%20and%20Forms/Forms/Epid/Zoonoses/ZoonoticsandEmergingPathogensRequisition.pdf>
- Section 4.2 – Rabies Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PREP)
  - The following sentence has been added on page 15: “Rablg and vaccine should be administered in different anatomic sites on day 0. Subsequent vaccine doses may be given where the Rablg was previously administered”.
  - The following sentence was revised on page 17: “if there is no obvious wound or, the exposed area can be infiltrated. If there is too much Rablg to infiltrate the wound, or exposed area any remaining Rablg should be administered IM at a site distal to the vaccination site. ~~at a site distal.~~”
- URL Page 19 – broken link “Zoonotic diseases ...”; New link:  
<http://www.bccdc.ca/resource-gallery/Documents/Guidelines%20and%20Forms/Forms/Epid/Zoonoses/ZoonoticsandEmergingPathogensRequisition.pdf>
- Section 5.0 – Clinical Presentation in Humans and Epidemiology; spill-over case of skunk added to the list on page 24:
  - 2021 – a skunk in Nelson
- Section 7.0 – Reporting Authority; updated regulation that includes the requirement for veterinarians to report rabies exposures to public health:
  - “Reporting Information Affecting Public Health Regulation ([RIAPH Reg 167/2018](#)).”
- Appendix A, page 30: Wildlife Veterinarian phone number has been updated.
- Appendix B, page 31: added footnote 36 to include instructions on how to use the CFIA Rabies Lab Sample Submission Form:



Provincial Health  
Services Authority



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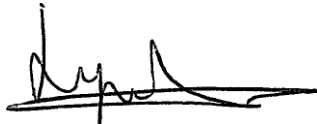
- <sup>36</sup>For instructions on how to open form please see CFIA website at:  
<https://inspection.canada.ca/about-cfia/find-a-form/form-cfia-acia-5597/eng/1403185965342/1403185966826>
- Appendix C, page 32: updated URL:  
[https://www.canadianveterinarians.net/rabies/en/documents/3\\_packaging%20of%20samples%20v1%202014.pdf](https://www.canadianveterinarians.net/rabies/en/documents/3_packaging%20of%20samples%20v1%202014.pdf)
- Appendix C, page 33: updated URL:  
<https://www.canadianveterinarians.net/media/b5ydrzp/completing-the-electronic-submission-form.pdf>
- Appendix D, page 35 onward: removed all information regarding the IMOGAM immune globulin as it is no longer available in Canada.

**Please remove entire section:** dated June 2023

**Please add new section:** dated July 2023

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Mandy Deresh, Senior Practice Lead, BCCDC (telephone: 778-908-5365 / email: [mderesh@bccdc.ca](mailto:mderesh@bccdc.ca)).

Sincerely,



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Physician Epidemiologist  
Public Health Response  
BC Centre for Disease Control

pc:

Provincial Health Officer  
Dr. Bonnie Henry

BC Ministry of Health,  
Communicable Disease Prevention and Control,  
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Brian Sagar  
A/Executive Director