

Rabies Vaccine, Home

Policy Number: MP-146

Last Review Date: 11/30/2017

Effective Date: 02/01/2018

Policy

This policy applies to the following lines of business:

- ✓ MedStar Employee (Select)
- ✓ MedStar CareFirst PPO

MedStar Health considers **Rabies Vaccine in the Home Setting** medically necessary for the following indications:

1. Member presented to ER after a possible rabies exposure.
 - a. Member receives rabies immunoglobulin (if not previously vaccinated) and rabies vaccine.
 - b. Member receives Post-Exposure Rabies Treatment Record and Information Sheet
2. Member received clear post-discharge instructions.
3. Member is discharged from ER, with instructions to follow-up with the VNA for repeat vaccinations at day 3, 7, and 14 (and day 28 for immunocompromised patients.)
 - a. VNA follows-up with patient at days 3, 7, and 14 (and 28) for repeat IMOVAX doses. A record of these doses is kept.
 - b. The IMOVAX injection site is given in an alternating fashion, from side-to-side, on the opposite side of the last dose.
 - c. If a patient has been previously vaccinated for rabies, only the day 3 dose is needed.
 - d. If a patient is immunosuppressed by any disease, medication, or therapy (broadly defined), an additional dose should be given on day 28 plus be tested for rabies virus neutralizing antibody between days 35-42 after exposure.

Limitations

See Place of Service Modifier in Coding Section Below. This policy is for administration of the rabies vaccine in the home setting only.

Background

The CDC categorizes Rabies as a serious disease caused by a virus. Humans get rabies when they are bitten by infected animals. The CDC reports that human rabies is rare in the United States. There have been only 55 cases diagnosed since 1990.

However, the CDC estimates between 16,000 and 39,000 people are vaccinated each year as a precaution after animal bites. The rabies vaccine is given to people at high

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risk of rabies to protect them if they are exposed. It can also prevent the disease if it is given to a person after they have been exposed.

Codes:

CPT Codes / HCPCS Codes / ICD-10 Codes	
Code	Description
90675	Rabies vaccine, for intramuscular use
90676	Rabies vaccine, for intradermal use
90375	Rabies immune globulin (rlg), human, for intramuscular and/or subcutaneous use
90376	Rabies immune globulin, heat-treated (RIg-HT), human, for intramuscular and/or subcutaneous use
ICD-10 Codes	
A82.9	Rabies, unspecified
A82.1	Urban rabies
A82.0	Sylvatic rabies
Z20.3	Contact with and (suspected) exposure to rabies
Z23	Encounter for immunization

Modifier:

Place of Service Code	Place of Service Name	Place of Service Description
12	Home	Location, other than a hospital or other facility, where the patient receives care in a private residence.

References

1. [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Rabies. Updated March 23, 2016. https://www.cdc.gov/rabies/medical_care/](https://www.cdc.gov/rabies/medical_care/)
2. [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Rabies Vaccine. Updated September 24, 2014. https://www.cdc.gov/rabies/medical_care/vaccine.html](https://www.cdc.gov/rabies/medical_care/vaccine.html)
3. [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Rabies VIS. Edition 10/6/2009. https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/vis/vis-statements/rabies.html](https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/vis/vis-statements/rabies.html)

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4. [U.S. Food & Drug Administration \(FDA\). Rabies Vaccine, IMOVAX Rabies. http://www.fda.gov/downloads/BiologicsBloodVaccines/Vaccines/ApprovedProducts/UCM133484.pdf](http://www.fda.gov/downloads/BiologicsBloodVaccines/Vaccines/ApprovedProducts/UCM133484.pdf)
5. [World Health Organization. International travel and health. Rabies. Accessed 01/19/2017. http://www.who.int/ith/vaccines/rabies/en](http://www.who.int/ith/vaccines/rabies/en)

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