

Rabies Vaccination Fast Tracking

We should consider that all primates/mammals have the potential of carrying rabies. As a result, all researchers/employees working with primates/mammal directly will require the vaccination and confirmation of immunity.

Due to the unforeseen situation of the inability to obtain rabies vaccine and/or the time requirement before the completion of immunization series and confirmation of immunity; researchers/employees would like to start their work prior to the full series of vaccinations and the blood testing to be completed.

If there were an accidental exposure, the researcher/employee can still receive the immunoglobulin and be protected. Therefore in the situation of unavailable rabies vaccine, researchers/employees will be allowed to work with primates before the series is completed and the antibody titre known.

A “fast tracking” option has been established. The researcher/employee will be advised that there is a slight possibility that the animal(s) may be a rabies carrier and the researcher/employee can choose to start his/her works before the immunization series is completed and/or before immunity is confirmed by a blood test. The researcher/employee will sign an informed consent releasing the university and Workplace Health and its staff of liability.

The fast tracking option does not apply to researchers working outside the London Area.

**CONSENT FOR EARLY START BEFORE IMMUNITY IS
CONFIRMED FOR RABIES**

I, _____, am working on primates/mammals at the University of Western Ontario, in _____ building. I fully understand that there is a small chance that the animals may be rabies carriers. I am aware that I need to have full rabies immunity before I start working.

In view of the minimal risk of exposure, I choose to proceed with the research work before the completion of my vaccination. I will complete the immunization series and have my sero-conversion confirmed. I understand that this carries the risk of not being fully protected and the potential consequences including death.

I also understand that should I have any accidental exposure I will report to Workplace Health immediately and be given the immunoglobulin and be protected.

I fully understand the risks and benefits of proceeding prior to the completion of the vaccination and I will hold the University of Western Ontario, Biohazard Committee, Workplace Health staff, Dr. Sidney Siu and Kristine Brown harmless.

Employee Name

Employee Signature

Date

Witness