



Rabies Vaccine Requirements in Veterinary Medicine

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Risk to Veterinary Medical Professionals

- CDC lists veterinary professionals as a Risk 3 category for exposure to the Rabies virus compared to the general population.
- A 2-dose PrEP schedule has replaced the 3-dose PrEP schedule to protect for up to 3 years. (2022). After this period, titers are done to determine if a booster is needed.
- Rabies is 100% fatal.

AVMA Requirements for Veterinary Technician Programs

- AVMA Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities (CVTEA) requires students to be vaccinated before handling ANY live animal
 - <https://www.avma.org/education/center-for-veterinary-accreditation/committee-veterinary-technician-education-activities/cvtea-accreditation-policies-and-procedures-appendix-a>
- Programs may develop a mitigation plan but the majority of programs have elected for the mandatory vaccination requirements.

Prophylactic versus Post Exposure

- **Prophylactic Cost**

- **Without Insurance Coverage:**

- Two-series vaccine schedule. \$400 average per vaccine. Total \$800 (Good RX)
- Has been as much as \$1000 per vaccine

- **Post Exposure Treatment**

- Post Exposure cost average \$3800 for the post exposure injection alone not including hospital cost and treatment of bite wound
 - (<https://www.cdc.gov/rabies/location/usa/cost.html>)

Who needs the vaccine

- **Approximately 110,000 Credentialed Veterinary Technicians in the US**
- **Approximately 3500 Veterinary Technician students per year and growing**
- **Other necessary personnel: veterinarians, veterinary students, veterinary assistants, animal control officers, laboratory workers, and wildlife rehabbers.**