WHO Immunological Basis for Immunization Series

Module 17: Rabies
Update 2017

Immunization, Vaccines and Biologicals

World Health Organization

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Abbreviations and acronyms

ABLV	Australian bat lyssavirus
ACIP	Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices
ARAV	Aravan lyssavirus
ART	Antiretroviral Therapy
APC	Antigen-presenting cells
BBLV	Bokeloh bat lyssavirus
CCV	Cell culture rabies vaccine
CNS	central nervous system
dRIT	direct Rapid Immunohistochemical test
DPT-IPV	Combined diphtheria, tetanus, whole-cell pertussis and inactivated poliomyelitis vaccine
DUVV	Duvenhage lyssavirus
EBLV-1	European bat lyssavirus type 1
EBLV-2	European bat lyssavirus type 2
ELISA	Enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay
ERIG	Equine rabies immune globulin
FAT	Fluorescent antibody test
FAVN	Fluorescent antibody virus neutralization
GBS	Guillain-Barré syndrome
HAART	Highly Active Antiretroviral Therapy
HDCV	Human diploid cell rabies vaccine
HIV	Human immunodeficiency virus
HRIG	Human rabies immune globlulin
ICTV	International Committee on Taxonomy of Viruses
ID	Intradermal
IKOV	Ikoma lyssavirus
IM	Intramuscular
IRKV	Irkut lyssavirus
JEV	Japanese encephalitis vaccine

KHUV	Khujand lyssavirus
LBV	Lagos bat lyssavirus
Mab	Monoclonal antibodies
MNT	Mouse neutralization test
MOKV	Mokola lyssavirus
NTV	Nerve tissues vaccines
PCECV	Purified chick embryo cell rabies vaccine
PCR	Polymerase chain reaction
PDEV	Purified duck embryo cell rabies vaccine
PEP	Post-exposure prophylaxis
PIKA	Polyinosinic Polycytidylic Acid Based Adjuvant
PrEP	Pre-exposure vaccination
PVRV	Purified Vero cell rabies vaccine
RABV	Rabies lyssavirus
RFFIT	Rapid fluorescent focus inhibition test
RIG	Rabies immune globulin
SHIBV	Shimoni bat lyssavirus
SOT	Solid organ transplantation
VNA	Virus neutralizing antibodies
WCBV	West Caucasian bat lyssavirus
WHO	World Health Organization

Preface

This module is part of the WHO series The Immunological Basis for Immunization, which was initially developed in 1993 as a set of eight modules, comprising one module on general immunology and seven modules each devoted to one of the vaccines recommended for the Expanded Programme on Immunization, i.e. vaccines against diphtheria, measles, pertussis, polio, tetanus, tuberculosis and yellow fever. Since then, this series has been updated and extended to include other vaccines of international importance. The main purpose of the modules is to provide national immunization managers and vaccination professionals with an overview of the scientific basis of vaccination against a range of important infectious diseases. The modules developed since 1993 continue to be vaccine-specific, reflecting the biological differences in immune responses to the individual pathogens and the differing strategies employed to create the best possible level of protection that can be provided by vaccination. The modules also serve as a record of the immunological basis for the WHO recommendations on vaccine use, published in the WHO vaccine position papers.*