

Bat Conservation Trust



DOCTOR'S DECLARATION (Scotland)

The Health Protection Network's guidance document Rabies: Guidance on Prophylaxis and Management in Humans in Scotland (Health Protection Scotland website <https://www.publichealthscotland.scot> (latest version 04 Sept 2023) states that the rabies vaccine should be given to those who frequently handle bats in the UK. If the handling of bats is as part of an individual's paid work, their employer is deemed responsible for the payment for the vaccine. Where an employer cannot be identified or if the individual's involvement with bats is in a voluntary capacity (e.g. a bat carer) the pre-exposure rabies vaccine should be available, free of charge from the NHS. Individuals should approach their GP practice for vaccination.

Following an initial course and one-year booster the guidance recommends that bat workers in Scotland should have their antibody level tested every three years and given a booster if necessary, these titre tests and boosters should be free of charge.

If you have questions about the Bat Conservation Trust's policy on rabies vaccination for volunteers, please e-mail batcare@bats.org.uk for the attention of the Bat Care Co-Ordinator.

Once the vaccine is administered, please complete the details below.

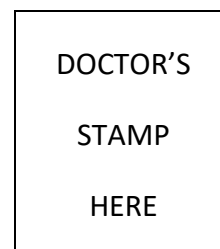
This is to confirm that[name] is in receipt

of the vaccine [name of brand].

Date of 1st vaccination:

Date of 2nd vaccination:

Date of 3rd vaccination:



OR

Date of first booster vaccination (1 year after the primary course):

OR

Date of subsequent 3-5 yearly booster vaccination:

OR

Date of serology test confirming presence of rabies antibodies:.....

Please note that serology tests are not free and must be paid for by the patient. Guidelines on timing of rabies boosters based on antibodies levels can be found online at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/rabies-post-exposure-treatment-timing-of-vaccine-booster>

Signed:[GP/Nurse/Health professional] (delete as appropriate)

Please print name:

Date of signature:

To the patient:

If you are listed, or would like to be listed on the Bat Conservation Trust's UK Bat Care Network, please send a copy of this form to enquiries@bats.org.uk or Bat Care Co-Ordinator, Studio 15 Cloisters House, Cloisters Business Centre, 8 Battersea Park Road, London SW8 4BG.



In order to protect your right to confidentiality, the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA) sets rules for processing personal information. The information we hold about your vaccination status is collected to enable the Bat Conservation Trust to maintain a list of vaccinated people who are able to care for grounded and injured bats.

Under some circumstances, to fulfil our responsibility to protect the public against rabies, we may share information about your vaccination status with the Animal and Plant Health Agency, your local public health body or your local Statutory Nature Conservation Organisation. If you would prefer us not to do this, please tick this box.