

Contact Information for Serologic Testing for Rabies Antibodies

Serologic testing for antibodies to rabies via a Rapid Fluorescent Focus Inhibition Test (RFFIT) is recommended in a variety of rabies preexposure and postexposure scenarios.

After preexposure rabies vaccinations have been administered:

- individuals at frequent risk for exposure to rabies (such as rabies diagnostic lab workers, spelunkers, veterinarians and staff, veterinary students, and animal control and wildlife workers in rabies-enzootic areas*) should have serologic testing every 2 years and a booster vaccination administered if their antibody titer falls below the acceptable level.**
- individuals at continuous risk for exposure to rabies (such as rabies research lab workers and rabies biologics production workers) should have serologic testing every 6 months and a booster vaccination administered if their antibody titer falls below the acceptable level.**

After postexposure rabies vaccinations have been administered:

- individuals in unusual circumstances (such as patients who are immunodeficient or immunosuppressed) should have serologic testing 2 to 4 weeks after completing the postexposure vaccination series and a booster vaccination administered if their antibody titer falls below the acceptable level.**

The following laboratories provide the rabies RFFIT:

Rabies Laboratory
Kansas State University
2005 Research Park Circle
Manhattan, KS 66502
Phone: 785-532-4483
www.vet.ksu.edu/rabies

Maryland State Public Health Laboratories
Maryland Department of Health
201 W Preston St.
Baltimore, MD 21201
Phone: 410-767-6177
www.dhmh.maryland.gov/laboratories

Atlanta Health Associates
309 Pirkle Ferry Rd. Suite D300
Cumming, GA 30040
Phone: 800-717-5612
www.atlantahealth.net

* Texas is considered to be a rabies-enzootic area.

** Minimum acceptable antibody level is complete virus neutralization at a 1:5 serum dilution by RFFIT.