

[Biomedica](#). 2009 Jun;29(2):191-203.

## **[Human rabies encephalitis by a vampire bat bite in an urban area of Colombia]**

[Article in Spanish]

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Human rabies encephalitis by a vampire bat bite in an urban area of Colombia A case of rabies encephalitis is presented in a teenaged male, which developed four months after a bat bite in the urban area of Floridablanca, Santander Province, Colombia. The complex clinical manifestations prevented the confirmation of an antemortem diagnosis, principally because of the lengthy incubation period and the absence of other similar urban cases. Despite application of several therapies, including the Milwaukee protocol, the patient died 19 days after hospital admission. The autopsy revealed a necrotic, acute, pan-encephalitis of rabies virus etiology. The test of direct immunofluorescence in brain tissue was positive, as well as the biologic test in mice. Serological tests indicated it to be an antigenic variant type 3, whose main reservoir is the hematophagous vampire bat, *Desmodus rotundus*. This is probably the first case of bat-induced rabies reported in an urban community of Colombia and one of the few in Latin America. Although rabies encephalitis by a bat bite is rare, the case serves as a notice to health authorities and to the medical community to be alert to this risk.

[Vaccine](#). 2009 Nov 27;27(51):7173-7.

## **"Early death" and the contraindication of vaccine during treatment of rabies.**

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Administration of rabies vaccine or rabies immune globulin (RIG) during symptomatic rabies is ineffective, and there are concerns about the phenomenon of "early death" reported in animals that develop rabies after receipt of rabies vaccine or immune globulin. Survival analyses of the original animal data confirm these findings in two species, whereas analyses of human case

reports and the Milwaukee Protocol registry suggest lower risk of "early death" in humans. There may be a deleterious interaction of rabies vaccine and RIG with bat rabies in humans. Animal studies of bat rabies virus with bat-origin vaccines and RIG are urgently needed.

PMID: 19925949 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]

[Scand J Infect Dis](#). 2009;41(5):372-5.

## **Applying the Milwaukee protocol to treat canine rabies in Equatorial Guinea.**

[Rubin J](#), [David D](#), [Willoughby RE Jr](#), [Rupprecht CE](#), [Garcia C](#), [Guarda DC](#), [Zohar Z](#), [Stamler A](#).

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In this first report of rabies in Equatorial Guinea, problems accompanying the application of the Milwaukee Protocol are described. With its apparent success, and despite a subsequent death from complications of malnutrition, we sound a note of optimism that canine as well as bat rabies may be treatable.

PMID: 19263274 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]

[MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep](#). 2008 Feb 29;57(8):197-200.

## **Human rabies--Alberta, Canada, 2007.**

[Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#).

On April 26, 2007, a patient from Alberta, Canada, died after 9 weeks in an intensive care unit (ICU) from encephalitis caused by a rabies virus variant associated with silver-haired bats. This report summarizes the clinical course of disease in that patient, who was treated using the Milwaukee Protocol, an experimental treatment protocol similar to one used for the rabies survivor described in 2005. This report also describes the subsequent epidemiologic investigations by three regional public health departments in Alberta. Rabies continues to be a cause of human death in the developed and developing world. The findings in this report underscore the need for continued public education that promotes rabies prevention and postexposure prophylaxis while emphasizing the importance of bat exposure in rabies transmission.

PMID: 18305449 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]