

MHA Advisory on Police Service K9s (PSKs) No. 4

No. MHA/Police K9/2020/257-274 (CFN3500983)

**Government of India
Ministry of Home Affairs
Police Modernization Division
(MHA Police K9 Cell)**

HQ NSG, Mehram Nagar, Palam
New Delhi-110037
Dated, the 26th Oct 2020

To

Directors General BSF, CRPF, SSB, ITBP, CISF, NSG & AR

Subject: Guidelines on Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) against Rabies to High-Risk Personnel of CAPFs

Sir,

Approval of the competent authority of this Ministry is hereby accorded for Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) against the fatal disease of Rabies to the high-risk personnel of the CAPFs as per under mentioned guidelines:

- (a) **High-Risk Group Personnel.** All CAPF personnel who are required to handle dogs (Police Service K9s – PSKs) through long periods of their service span are required to be immunized as per national guidelines on Rabies prophylaxis. The PrEP immunization against Rabies is provided to such personnel comprising of Dog Handlers, Veterinary and Para-Vet Staff personnel soon on induction in such units/duties and to be discontinued if the person moves out of such duties.
- (b) **Type of Anti-Rabies Vaccine.** PrEP is achieved by administration of safe and potent cell culture vaccines (CCVs) or purified duck embryo vaccine (PDEV). Currently available CCVs could be administered by intramuscular regimen and CCVs approved for intradermal use shall be administered by ID regimen.
- (c) **Schedule, Dosage and Route for PrEP against Rabies.** PrEP to be administered as one full dose of vaccine intramuscularly or 0.1 ml intra-dermally on days 0, 7 and 21. Specific instructions regarding the manufacturer of vaccine are kept in mind regarding the dosage and route of administration under expert medical advice.
- (d) **Sero-monitoring and Booster Immunization.** Post vaccinal sero-titre of such personnel may be determined randomly if required as per national guidelines on the subject. Because vaccine-induced immunological memory persists in most cases for years, a booster would be recommended only if rabies virus neutralizing antibody titres drops to less than 0.5 IU/ml. Such individuals on getting exposed to rabies virus after successful PrEP would require only two booster injections of vaccine given on days 0 and 3 and no Rabies Immunoglobulin (RIG). Further, in persons with an ongoing high risk of rabies exposure, a booster dose should be ensured every 2 years without serological testing.

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(e) **Contraindications and Precautions.** As rabies is nearly 100% fatal disease, there is no contraindication to PrEP in adult personnel. Further precautions and contraindications will be as per the directions of the manufacturer contained in the literature supplied by them with the vaccine. Separate sterilized syringes and needles shall be used for each person. Further, precautions be undertaken as per national guidelines and expert medical advice.

2. **Record of PrEP.** Proper record of PrEP against Rabies be maintained in the health record of personnel and due institutional mechanism be ensured for timely re-vaccination by booster doses as per above mentioned guidelines on inter-unit move of personnel.

3. Financial expenditures on above mentioned PrEP against Rabies be met by the concerned CAPF from appropriate budget head as per delegated financial powers.

Yours faithfully



(Dr. PK Chug)

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- Chairman, Airport Authority of India
- Chairman, Central Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs
- DsG NDRF, RPF, NCB
- Director SPG
- Commissioner of Police-Delhi,
- DGPs Chandigarh, J&K and Ladakh

} For information, please.

Internal

PPS to AS (PM) : For information, please.