Northwest Territories Health and Social Services

NWT Clinical Practice Information Notice

UPON RECEIPT: (1) PLEASE FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONS BELOW
(2) FILE THIS NOTICE IN YOUR CLINICAL PRACTICE INFORMATION BINDER FOR FUTURE REFERENCE

The following clinical practice has been approved for use in the Northwest Territories Health and Social Services system, and has been distributed to:

☐ Hospitals	☒ Community Health Centers	☒ Public Health Units	☐ Doctors' Offices	☐ Social Services Offices	☐ Other: _____

The information contained in this document is a Departmental:

☐ Policy ☒ Standard ☐ Protocol ☐ Procedure ☐ Guidelines

Title: Intradermal use of Rabies Vaccine

Effective Date: October 05, 2006

Statement of approved clinical practice: The NWT Advisory Committee on Immunization endorses the continued use of intradermal rabies vaccine for pre-exposure prophylaxis.

This route of administration is cost effective & produces good seroprotection. Post intradermal rabies immunization titers done in the NWT have confirmed the UK & US recommendation that intradermal rabies vaccines confer good seroprotection. The intradermal route is to be used only for pre-exposure prophylaxis.

Please note that the more standard intramuscular administration may still be more cost-effective when dealing with small numbers of clients and remains an acceptable alternative.

Pre-exposure vaccination should be done as follows:

a. Using **0.1 ml** of reconstituted freeze-dried Human Diploid Cell Vaccine, inject **intradermally** (ID) in the deltoid area of either arm.
b. Three doses are to be given, at 0, 7 and 21 days.
c. All attempts should be made to schedule people requiring pre-exposure immunization in groups, to minimize wastage.
d. People in high-risk occupations (wildlife officers, hunters & trappers and veterinarians) should have their titers checked annually and receive a 0.1 ml booster dose ID if the titer falls below 0.5 IU/ml.

This clinical practice is approved. _____ 3/11/06
(signature)

Assistant Deputy Minister ☐ **Chief Medical Officer of Health** ☒ **Director, Child & Family Services** ☐ **Director, Adoptions** ☐