

Feline rabies 貓狂犬病. ABCD guidelines on prevention and management

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Abstract

Overview: Rabies virus belongs to the genus Lyssavirus, together with European bat lyssaviruses 1 and 2. In clinical practice, rabies virus is easily inactivated by detergent-based disinfectants.

Infection: Rabid animals are the only source of infection. Virus is shed in the saliva some days before the onset of clinical signs and transmitted through a bite or a scratch to the skin or mucous membranes. **The average incubation period in cats is 2 months, but may vary from 2 weeks to several months, or even years.**

Disease signs: Any unexplained aggressive behaviour or sudden behavioural change in cats must be considered suspicious. Two disease manifestations have been identified in cats: the furious and the dumb form. Death occurs after a clinical course of 1-10 days.

Diagnosis: A definitive rabies diagnosis is obtained by post-mortem laboratory investigation. However, serological tests are used for post-vaccinal control, especially in the context of international movements.

Disease management: Post-exposure vaccination of cats depends on the national public health regulations, and is forbidden in many countries.

Vaccination recommendations: A single rabies vaccination induces a long-lasting immunity. Kittens should be vaccinated at 12-16 weeks of age to avoid interference from maternally derived antibodies and revaccinated 1 year later. Although some vaccines protect against virulent rabies virus challenge for 3 years or more, national or local legislation may call for annual boosters.

概述：狂犬病毒屬於麗莎病毒屬。一般之清潔消毒劑即可殺死狂犬病毒。

感染：感染狂犬病之動物是唯一的感染源。病毒在臨床症狀出現前幾天從唾液中開始出現，通過咬傷或抓傷其他動物之皮膚或粘膜進行傳染。**貓的平均潛伏期為 2 個月，但可能從 2 週到數月甚至數年不等。**

疾病症狀：貓的無厘頭的攻擊行為或突然的行為變化都必須懷疑是狂犬病。在貓有兩種臨床型：狂暴型和麻痺型(furious and the dumb form)。在臨床症狀出現 1-10 天後死亡。

診斷：動物死亡後通過實驗室檢驗可獲得確診。血清學測試主要用於疫苗接種後的控制，特別是在國際狂犬病防疫宣導活動時。

疾病管理：貓的暴露後疫苗接種取決於國家公共衛生法規，在大部分國家都是禁止的 [通常都是直接安樂死]。

疫苗接種建議：單次狂犬病疫苗接種即可產生長久的免疫力。幼貓應在 12-16 週齡時接種疫苗，以避免母貓移行抗體的干擾，並應在 1 年後補強接種。雖然三年期疫苗有效期可維持 3 年或更久，但國家或地方議會可能會要求每年補強注射一次 [美國是聯邦制，地方議會有自治權，不受聯邦政府約束]。