



WA PROTOCOL FOR ACCESSING IMMUNOGLOBULIN BLOOD PRODUCTS FOR PUBLIC HEALTH USE IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA

This document describes the process for accessing immunoglobulin blood products for post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) for public health disease control activities in Western Australia.

Normal Human Immunoglobulin (NHlg) and Zoster Immunoglobulin (Zlg) supply is governed by the National Blood Authority, and NHlg and Zlg is supplied by the Australian Red Cross Lifeblood Service).

Human Rabies Immunoglobulin (HRlg) supply is governed by WA Health Public Health Physicians (PHPs) and CDCD.

The process for accessing each product and how to order or access WA Health cache stock (*Appendix I*) where held, is outlined below. Refer to Further Information section as required.

PROCESS FOR NHIG

For REGIONAL orders where NHlg cache stock is held:

1. The PHP completes the [NHlg form](#) to approve release of cache stock that is positioned in regional hospitals.
2. The PHP ensures the 'in-hospital stock' option is 'ticked' and the hospital delivery address is entered, so that NHlg cache stock is replenished.
3. The PHP sends the completed form to the WA contact details shown on the NHlg form.
4. **For urgent requests**, the PHP must phone Lifeblood on 9325 3030 **after** the form has been sent.

For REGIONAL or METROPOLITAN orders where NHlg is not held:

1. The PHP or the treating physician completes the [NHlg form](#) with the required delivery address.
2. The PHP sends the completed form via the WA contact details shown on the NHlg form.
3. **For urgent requests**, the PHP must phone Lifeblood on 9325 3030 **after** the form has been sent.

Lifeblood will release and deliver products in accordance with the delivery address and instructions noted on the form.

The PHP **must** include their personal emergency contact details for any queries that may arise.

For the National Blood Authority (NBA) policy on access, supply and use of NHlg visit <https://www.blood.gov.au/NHlg>.

PROCESS FOR ZIG

The PHP must liaise directly with the Australian Red Cross Blood Service in WA by phoning the **24 hour service on 9421 2800 and provide details of** the case and provider delivery details.

The WA Blood Service will act quickly to review the patient case details and ascertain if Zlg is required, and the best process for access.



After review, the Blood Service will either send the PHP a form to complete, or request the provider or tertiary facility to submit the Zlg order through The National Blood Authority [BloodNet](#) system.

The Blood Service will review, approve and place the order, and arrange urgent despatch.

Where Zlg is unavailable or not approved, the Red Cross Blood Service and treating clinician will liaise regarding an alternative treatment, and the PHP may be required for further consultation.

PROCESS FOR HRIG

All cases require completion of an [exposure assessment and vaccine order form](#). *(When global supply of Imogam (Sanofi) is constrained, KamRAB (Link Healthcare) product is used. When KamRAB is used the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) require the Special Access Scheme – Category A form to be completed by the administering clinician, after obtaining patient consent).*

The process to access HRIG is as follows:

For REGIONAL or METROPOLITAN orders where HRIG cache is held:

1. The PHP approves use of HRIG and rabies vaccine by providing their name as the approver on the order form to replenish cache stock, including contact details for any queries that may arise.
2. When approving, the PHP will review cache stock to ensure target levels are maintained (see *Appendix 1* and/or view cache stock and forms at http://ww2.health.wa.gov.au/Articles/N_R/Rabies-and-other-lyssavirus-including-bat-lyssavirus).
3. The PHP sends the order form to the WA Health Toll warehouse to replenish cache stock, via the contact details on the form.
4. The PHP sends a copy of the order with the exposure form to vaccineorders@health.wa.gov.au for recording purposes.

CDCD Vaccine Orders oversees the process of despatching rabies PEP via Toll, including routine checks of cache stock at each approved facility and maintains case records.

For REGIONAL or METROPOLITAN orders where HRIG is not held:

1. The PHP approves use of HRIG and rabies vaccine by providing their name as the approver on the order form, and completing the delivery address and treating physician details.
2. The PHP sends the order form to the WA Health Toll warehouse; **after** the form has been sent, the PHP must **phone 6160 7444 or After Hours 0402 891 810 to confirm the order**.
3. The PHP must ensure their contact details are included for any queries that may arise.
4. The PHP sends a copy of the vaccine order form with the exposure form to vaccineorders@health.wa.gov.au for recording purposes.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Further information for HRIG and rabies vaccine use in public health is available at:

http://ww2.health.wa.gov.au/Articles/N_R/Rabies-and-other-lyssavirus-including-bat-lyssavirus

Further information for NHIG and Zlg and their use in public health is available at:



<https://immunisationhandbook.health.gov.au/vaccine-preventable-diseases/varicella-chickenpox> (refer to the Public Health Section)

<https://www.blood.gov.au/NHIg>

https://ww2.health.wa.gov.au/Articles/F_I/Hepatitis-A

https://ww2.health.wa.gov.au/Articles/J_M/Measles

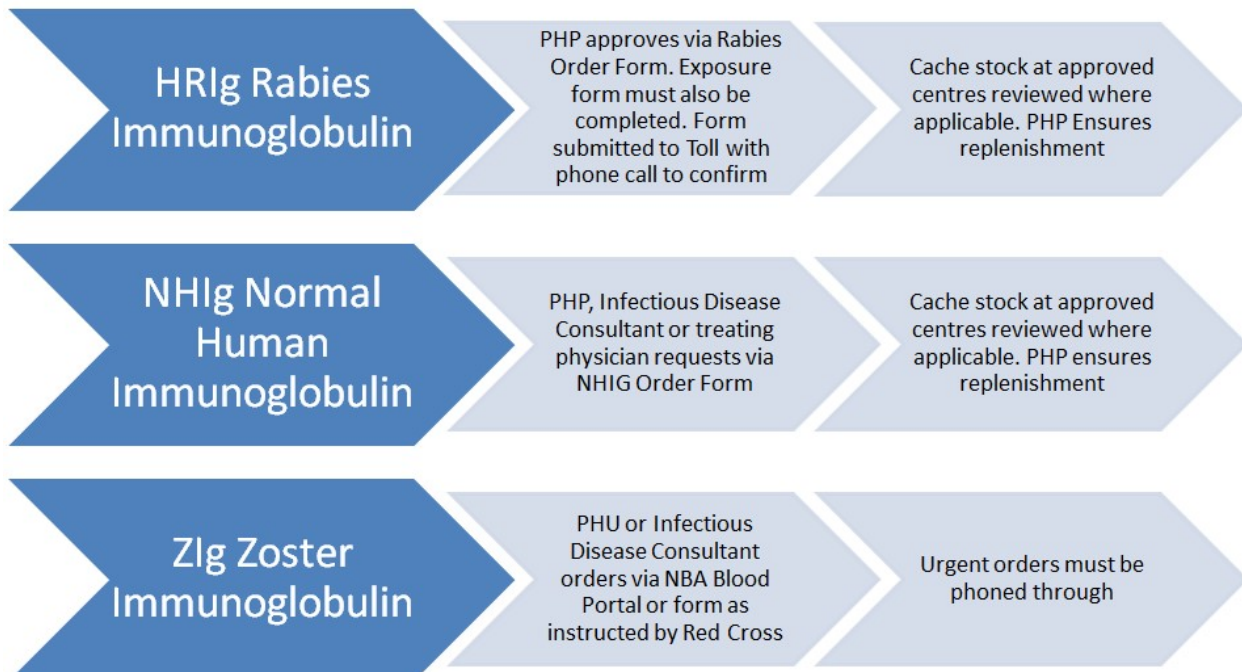
https://ww2.health.wa.gov.au/Articles/N_R/Poliomyelitis

https://ww2.health.wa.gov.au/Articles/N_R/Rubella

Contact details for Public Health Units:

<https://www.healthywa.wa.gov.au/publichealthunits>

Process Summary:





**APPENDIX I – WA HEALTH APPROVED FACILITIES FOR IMMUNOGLOBULIN PRODUCTS
 NHIG and HRIG**



WA Health Approved Facilities for Immunoglobulin Products Normal Human Immunoglobulin (NHlg) and Human Rabies Immunoglobulin (HRlg)						
Tertiary Hospital / Facility	Location and access	Phone No.	Maximum Cache Stock			
			NHlg 5mL vial	NHlg 2mL vial	HRlg 2mL vial (per 15kg)	Vaccine 1 mL vial
Perth Children's Hospital	24 hours a day, 7 days a week Pathwest Transfusion Medicine Laboratory	6383 4015	4	2	0	0
Albany Hospital	Mon-Fri 0800-1630 Stock in Pharmacy After hours access available	9892 2269	10	3	8	4
Broome Hospital	Mon-Fri 0800-1600 Stock in Pharmacy After hours access available	9194 2821	10	3	12	8
Bunbury Hospital	Mon-Fri 0800-1630 Stock in Pharmacy After hours access available	9722 1416	10	3	12	8
Geraldton Hospital	Mon-Fri 0800-1600 Stock in Pharmacy After hours access available	9956 2234	10	3	8	4
Hedland Health Campus	Mon-Fri 0800-1600 Stock in ED, access to pharmacist	9174 1334	10	3	8	4
Kalgoorlie Hospital	Mon-Fri 0800-1700 Stock in Pharmacy After hours access available	9080 5655	10	3	8	4
Kununurra Hospital	Mon-Fri 0800-1600 Stock in ward pharmacy store After hours access available	9166 4388	10	3	8	4
Karratha Health Campus	Mon-Fri 0800-1600 Stock in Pharmacy After hours access available	9144 7766	-	-	8	4
Travel Health Fremantle 85 South St, Fremantle	Mon/Wed/Fri 0830-1700 Tue/Thu 0830-1900 Sat 0830-1230	9336 6630	-	-	9	4
Travel Doctor Perth (TMVC) 50 St George's Tce, Perth	Mon-Fri 0830-1700 Sat 0830-1230	6467 0900	-	-	9	4
Travel Medicine Centre 5 Mill St, Perth	Mon-Thu 0830-1700, Fri 0830-1630 Sat depends on doctors availability	9321 7888	-	-	9	4
Total in WA State			74	23	99	52