

04 Feb 2019

Medical product alert: falsified rabies vaccine - Philippines

A report of falsified rabies vaccine circulating in the Philippines

On 30 January 2019, the [World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#) issued a Medical Product Alert concerning falsified [Verorab®](#) rabies vaccine circulating in the Philippines. The manufacturer of the authentic [Verorab®](#) product has confirmed that they did not manufacture the falsified vaccines. WHO has not received reports of adverse reactions to the falsified product at the time of this report [1].

Advice for travellers

Authentic rabies vaccine is used to protect those at risk of exposure to rabies (pre-exposure), or to prevent rabies developing following the bite of an animal suspected of having the disease (post-exposure prophylaxis).

Country specific information about the risk of rabies can be found on our [Country Information pages](#) and [Outbreak Surveillance database](#).

Further advice on the worldwide risk of rabies, including the action you should take if bitten, licked or scratched by an animal in a country where rabies is known or presumed to occur, is available from [NaTHNaC: Worldwide risk of rabies](#).

If you recently received a course vaccine in the Philippines after an exposure or for other reasons, you should contact your doctor or a local travel clinic for advice.

Advice for health professionals

This notice applies to the circulation of a **falsified** product in the Philippines only.

Health professionals with concerns about a traveller who has received this falsified product can call [Public Health England: Rabies and Immunoglobulin Service](#).

The Sanofi Pasteur product Verorab® distributed in the United Kingdom is used with the approval of the [Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency \(MHRA\)](#).

Resources

- [Rabies factsheet](#)
- [Worldwide risk of rabies: a reminder for travellers](#)
- [Public Health England: Rabies and Immunoglobulin Service](#)
- [Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency \(MHRA\)](#)

References

1. [World Health Organization: Medical Product Alert N°1/2019 Falsified Rabies Vaccines circulating in the Philippines](#)