

# Bat Conservation Trust



## DOCTOR'S DECLARATION

The Health Protection Agency (formerly the Public Health Laboratory) and the Department of Health have agreed that rabies vaccine should be available, free of charge, to those involved with the handling of bats, or those who, through legal activities, are likely to come in contact with bats. GPs can obtain supplies of **free** vaccine and have access to advice on rabies immunisation from the Health Protection Agency on 020 8200 4400.

Please note that although the vaccine and subsequent boosters can be obtained free of charge, titre tests are not currently free and must be paid for by the patient.

Any queries regarding the Bat Conservation Trust policy on rabies vaccination should be directed to the National Bat Helpline on 0845 1300 228 or Helen Miller on 020 7820 7169.

Once the vaccine is administered, which should take place as soon as possible after the request is received, please complete the details below as evidence of the applicant having received the vaccinations.

This is to confirm that .....[name] is in receipt of the ..... vaccine [name of type of rabies vaccine].

Date of 1<sup>ST</sup> vaccination: .....

Date of 2<sup>nd</sup> vaccination: .....

Date of 3<sup>rd</sup> vaccination: .....



**OR**

Date of first booster vaccination (1 year after the primary course): .....

**OR**

Date of subsequent 3-5 yearly booster vaccination: .....

**OR**


Date of titre test confirming presence of rabies antibodies:.....

**Signed:** .....[GP/Nurse/Health professional] (delete as appropriate)

**Please print name:** .....

**Date of signature:** .....

**>>>> OVER**

 In order to protect your right to confidentiality, the Data Protection Act 1998 (DPA) sets rules for processing personal information. The information we hold about your vaccination status is collected to enable Bat Conservation Trust to arrange bat visits on behalf of the Statutory Nature Conservation Organisations (Natural England, Scottish Natural Heritage, Countryside Council for Wales and Department of Environment (Northern Ireland)). It will also be used by the Bat Conservation Trust for maintaining a list of vaccinated people who are able to care for grounded and injured bats. **The information will not be used by us for any other purpose.**

However, for ease of administration, we may share information about your vaccination status with other relevant and responsible bodies such as the Statutory Nature Conservation Organisations – if you would prefer us not to share your vaccination details please tick this box.