

Supplemental Materials

Supplementary Table 1. Cohort characteristics for T cell analysis.

Group	RABV-Exposed Group (n = 17)	RABV-Unexposed Group (n = 21)	Total (n = 38)
Lab-confirmed n (%)	17 (100.0)	2 (9.5)	19 (50.0)
Dog observation n (%)	0 (0.0)	19 (90.5)	19 (50.0)
Age range, year (mean)	4 – 69 (22)	8 – 68 (29)	4 – 69 (26)
Sex n (%)			
Male	10 (58.8)	14 (66.7)	24 (63.2)
Female	7 (41.2)	7 (33.3)	14 (36.8)
Province of bite incident n (%)			
Phnom Penh	2 (11.8)	13 (61.9)	15 (39.5)
Kandal	1 (5.9)	4 (19.0)	5 (13.2)
Takeo	3 (17.6)	1 (4.8)	4 (10.5)
Kampong Speu	4 (23.5)	0 (0.0)	4 (10.5)
Prey Veng	3 (17.6)	0 (0.0)	3 (7.9)
Kampot	2 (11.8)	0 (0.0)	2 (5.3)
Kampong Cham	0 (0.0)	2 (9.5)	2 (5.3)
Svay Rieng	1 (5.9)	1 (4.8)	2 (5.3)
Kampong Thom	1 (5.9)	0 (0.0)	1 (2.6)
eRIG treatment n (%)			
With eRIG (#)	17 (100.0)	2 (9.5)	19 (50.0)
Without eRIG	0 (0.0)	19 (90.5)	19 (50.0)

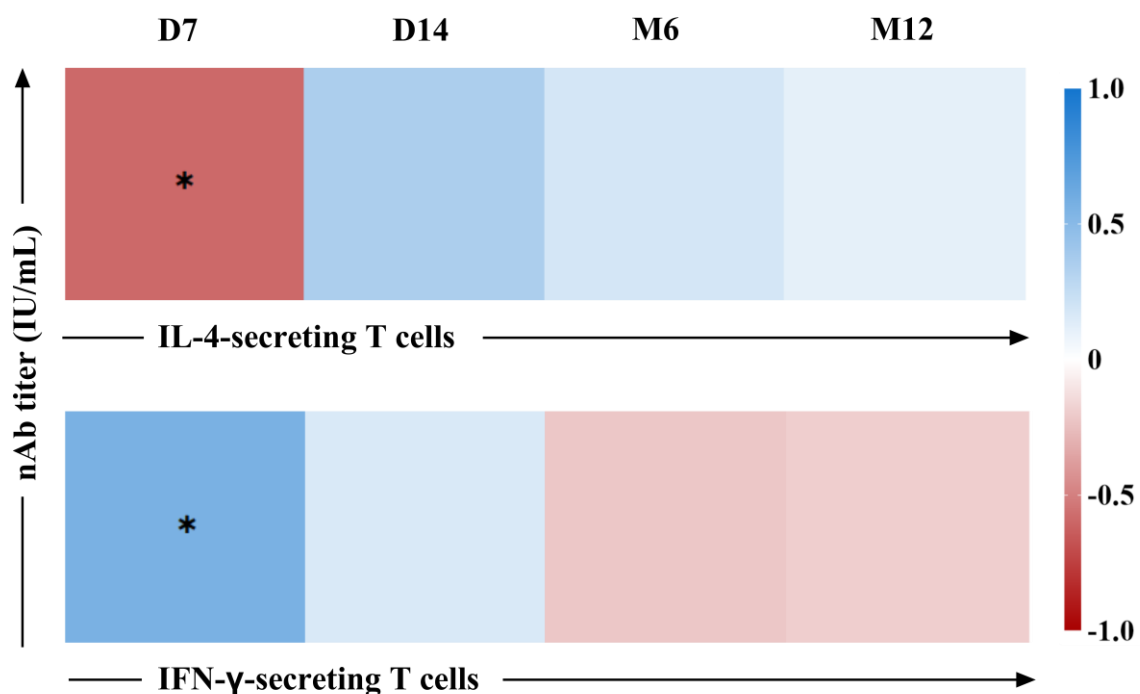
The analysis was done on unpaired samples. (#) two individuals received eRIG despite of not biting by RABV-positive dogs because one biting dog disappeared after 4 days of bite incidence and one individual got sever bite.

Supplementary Table 2. Samples used for FluoroSpot assay.

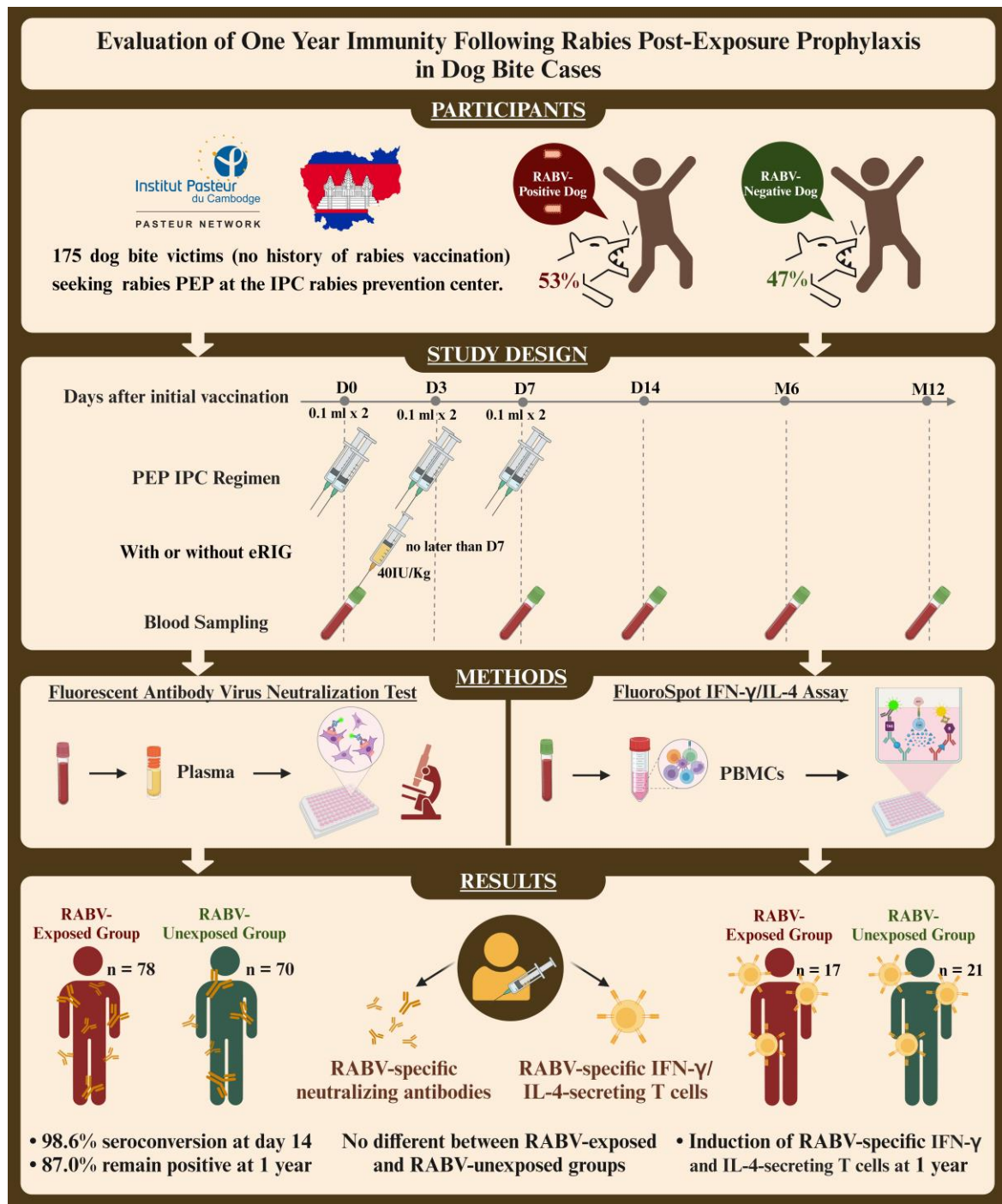
Time points	Groups	Samples with viability < 70% (*)	Samples with viability ≥ 70% (**)	Number of thawed samples	Number of qualified samples for analysis (#)		
					eRIG +	eRIG -	Total
D0	RABV-Exposed	6	11	17	5	0	10
	RABV-Unexposed	16	10	26	1	4	
D7	RABV-Exposed	4	10	14	6	0	13
	RABV-Unexposed	11	10	21	1	6	
D14	RABV-Exposed	10	14	24	8	0	18
	RABV-Unexposed	17	11	28	1	9	
M6	RABV-Exposed	5	12	17	8	0	20
	RABV-Unexposed	6	17	23	2	10	
M12	RABV-Exposed	11	7	18	5	0	15
	RABV-Unexposed	12	16	28	1	9	

Total	98	118	216	38	38	76
--------------	----	-----	-----	----	----	-----------

Cryopreserved PBMCs were thawed prior to their use in the FluoroSpot assay. Here, "sample" refers to an individual's PBMCs collected at a single timepoint. Given that each subject underwent blood collection five times, five samples were obtained from each individual. After exclusion of samples with low yield and low viability, 38 participants provided a total of 76 samples sufficient for data analysis. (*) Samples with viability < 70% after thawing were excluded from the experiment and the data analysis. (**) Samples with viability \geq 70% were included in the experiment. (#) Only samples with a positive control of at least 50 spot-forming cells (SFCs) per 300,000 peripheral blood mononuclear cells (PBMCs) were included in the analysis.



Supplementary Figure 1. Heat map of the correlation between rabies virus (RABV)-specific neutralizing antibody (nAb) titers and RABV-specific cytokine-secreting T cell response at day 7 (D7), day 14 (D14), month 6 (M6) and month 12 (M12) after post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) using the Institut Pasteur du Cambodge (IPC) regimen. (A) RABV nAb titers versus interleukin-4 (IL-4) secreting T cells. (B) RABV nAb titers versus interferon-gamma (IFN- γ) secreting T cells. Blue represents a positive correlation and red represents a negative correlation. Statistic: Spearman correlation test. Asterisks represent significance levels as follows: * $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, * $p < 0.001$, and **** $p < 0.0001$.**



Supplementary Figure 2. Summary of the study. Overall, 175 dog bite victims among the people seeking rabies PEP at the IPC rabies prevention center were initially included. PEP was administered ID according to the IPC PEP regimen (days 0, 3, and 7 following the date of inclusion) with or without equine rabies immunoglobulin (eRIG). We found 98.6% seroconversion at day 14, with 87% remaining positive even after 12 months. There was induction of both rabies virus (RABV)-specific interleukin-4 (IL-4) and interferon-gamma (IFN- γ)-secreting T cells one year after PEP. No differences in neutralizing antibodies and T cell responses were observed between RABV-exposed and -unexposed groups.