TREATMENT OF HUMAN RABIES: INTO DOUBLE DIGITS OF SURVIVORS

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Human rabies survivors are increasingly reported. There are 11 known survivors using the Milwaukee protocol and at least 6 survivors using other approaches. Functional outcomes show an unusual bimodal distribution. New diagnostics and antivirals are on the near horizon. There is sufficient equipoise between conventional critical care and experimental treatments including novel antivirals to justify randomized clinical trials. A central, multinational Institutional Review Board and international biological and sequence repositories are needed to expedite progress.