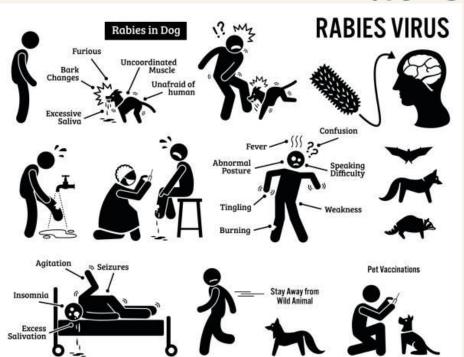


Best Practices for Education on Rabies Control

Commemorating World Rabies Day 2023

What is Rabies?

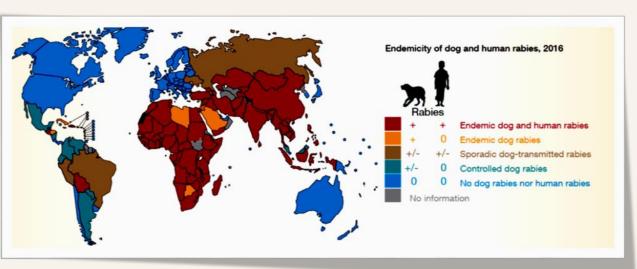


- Rabies is a neglected, under-reported zoonotic disease often affecting children and other socioeconomically vulnerable groups.
- Rabies is 100% fatal but 100% preventable
- Rabies can affect all mammals
- Dogs are predominant carriers of rabies: 99%
 human rabies cases comes from infected dogs

 $Source: \ https://www.istockphoto.com/vector/rabies-virus-in-human-and-animal-stick-figure-pictogram-icons-gm650996000-118238881$



Rabies burden across the world



Source: WHO/OIE

- Asia and Africa contribute to *99%* of the world's rabies-related human deaths
- Special/focused attention required in Asia and Africa to combat rabies





Why is rabies so prevalent in Asia and Africa?

High interface between unvaccinated dogs and humans

- Number of street dogs: Asia and Africa together
 constitute 2/3rd of the world's 200 million street dogs
- Low public awareness: related to low levels of education +
 myths around rabies abound
- High prevalence of poverty: people living in dense, lowincome housing have high exposure to unvaccinated dogs



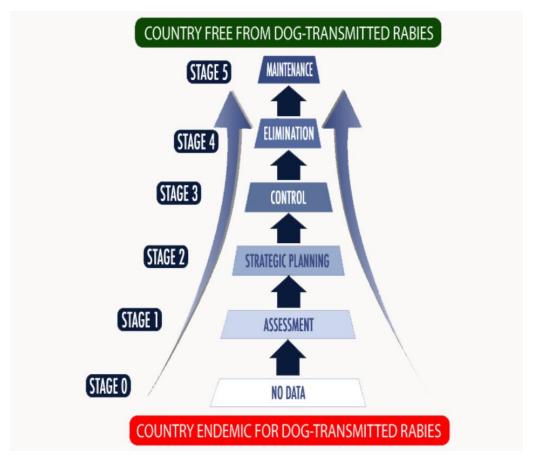


Why is rabies so prevalent in Asia and Africa?

Governance-related challenges:

- Low priority: Given the many issues governments in these countries have to deal with, rabies eradication is not a priority
- Lack of resources: Affordability and accessibility of antirabies vaccinations
- Coordination challenges: Large, complex, and strained bureaucratic structures lead to coordination challenges





Source: GARC (https://rabiesalliance.org/tools/planning-tools/sare)

What needs to happen

To transition from a country where rabies is endemic to a country free from rabies, several stages of work are required:

- Data collection: tracking dog bites, post-bite vaccinations, etc
- Analysing & strategic planning: identifying high burden areas and developing targeted interventions
- Control & Elimination: mass vaccinations; highvolume spay/neuter programs; responsible pet parenting; engaging & educating communities
- Maintenance: regular revaccinations; education





How we do it

Engaging & educating diverse stakeholders such as:

- Government: implementing spay/neuter programs; funding;
 infrastructure provision; policy on pet shops, breeding, etc;
- Industry: making vaccines easily available & affordable; ethical policy implementation
- NGOs/AWOs: implementation of effective spay/neuter & mass vaccination programs; community engagement; informing policy
- Media: disseminating rabies awareness via diverse media channels;
 sensitive reporting
- Veterinarians: prioritize anti-rabies vaccinations among all dogs;
 providing discounted/free vaccines to street dogs
- Community: tracking and reporting suspected rabies cases; ensuring vaccinations for community dogs; widening the reach of mass vaccination programs



How we as an Animal Welfare Organisation engage & educate communities

Partnering with local government authorities

High-volume spay/neuter and vaccination

As entry point to communities



Complaints redressal

Towards understanding core community issues





Community engagement modalities

Rabies awareness workshops

Raising awareness on rabies in communities



Dog behavior workshops

Raising awareness on dog behaviour in communities



Rabies Awareness Workshops





Rabies Awareness Workshops





Information, Education, and Communication materials and resources

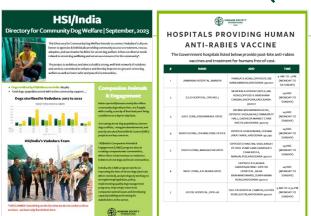
Posters and banners





Directory on street dog welfare

India's first-ever directory listing free or affordable resources for rabies vaccinations (humans & dogs)







Public outreach via event celebrations

World Rabies Day



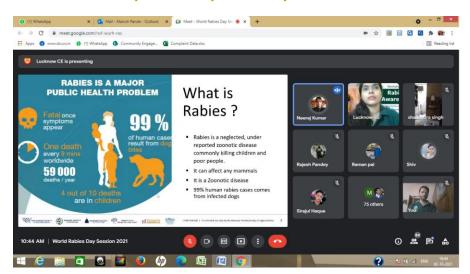
World Zoonoses Day





Media outreach

Social media, Webinars, Podcasts, Radio interviews



Traditional media







