

for Them for Us

In recognition of World Rabies Day 2021, Merck Animal Health is honoring the organizations, veterinarians, volunteers and dog owners who keep dogs rabies-free, which in turn protects us.

Humans Have a Special Bond with Dogs

There are an estimated **900 million dogs in the world.**³



It's universally acknowledged that dogs make people feel better. **74%** of dog owners have used their dog or dog videos as a pick-me-up when they're having a rough day.¹

Many dogs rely on humans to keep them safe and healthy.

However, rabies is still a threat in 150 countries.²



Dogs are the main source of human rabies deaths; **99% of human cases are caused by dog bites.**⁵



Globally rabies costs an estimated **USD \$ 8.6 billion per year.**⁶

Yet, it persists among areas with limited resources and education, resulting in an estimated **59,000** human rabies death globally each year.⁴

Through vaccination of dogs, rabies is **100% preventable.**



To eliminate rabies transmission in rabies-endemic areas, **at least 70% of dogs must be covered through annual mass-vaccination.**⁷

This is where veterinarians, volunteers, dog owners and not-for-profit organizations step up to **protect lives.**

Through on-the-ground efforts, these heroes significantly **reduce the rates** of human rabies.



Global Organizations Are Leading Efforts

Not-for-profit organizations Rabies Free Africa and Mission Rabies are fighting rabies with Merck Animal Health

RABIES FREE AFRICA

is **advancing critical research** into efficient and effective vaccination efforts to be implemented in areas with high rates of rabies.

MISSION RABIES

collaborates with local communities to run vaccination drives and provide critical education to children about rabies.

MERCK ANIMAL HEALTH through the AFYA PROGRAM

has donated nearly **3.4 million doses of rabies vaccines** to support organisations like Mission Rabies and Rabies Free Africa to eliminate rabies.

Almost half of deaths caused by rabies

are in children under 15 years of age.⁸

Together, we are one step closer to meeting the World Health Organization (WHO) goal of **zero dog-mediated human rabies deaths by 2030.**

WHO's goal of Zero by 2030 is only 9 years away!

This World Rabies Day, honor and support your local dog heroes by showing how they are saving canine and human lives with



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2. The World Health Organization. Rabies: Epidemiology and burden of disease. Accessed May 21, 2021. <https://www.who.int/rabies/epidemiology/en/>
3. World Atlas. How Many Dogs Are There In The World? Accessed May 21, 2021. <https://www.worldatlas.com/articles/how-many-dogs-are-there-in-the-world.html>
4. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Global Rabies Work. Accessed May 21, 2021. <https://www.cdc.gov/nceid/stories-features/global-stories/rabies-work.html#:~:text=An%20estimated%2059%2C000%20people%20die,transmitted%20between%20animals%20and%20people.>
5. The World Health Organization. Rabies. Accessed May 21, 2021. <https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/rabies>

6. Katie Hampson, et.al. Estimating the Global Burden of Endemic Canine Rabies. Accessed May 15, 2021. [https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4400070/#:~:text=The%20overall%20economic%20costs%20of,PEP%20\(1.31%20billion%20USD\).](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4400070/#:~:text=The%20overall%20economic%20costs%20of,PEP%20(1.31%20billion%20USD).)
7. The World Health Organization. Frequently Asked Questions about Rabies for the General Public. Accessed May 21, 2021. https://www.who.int/rabies/Rabies_General_Public_FAQs_Sep2018.pdf?ua=1
8. The World Health Organization. Rabies: The Facts (PDF). Accessed May 21, 2021. <https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/rabies>