

for Them for Us

In recognition of World Rabies Day 2020, 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.



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

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

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



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



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 and dog owners step up to **protect lives**.

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



Global Organizations Are Leading Efforts

MISSION RABIES

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

RABIES FREE AFRICA

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

MERCK ANIMAL HEALTH through the AFYA PROGRAM

has donated over **3 million doses of rabies vaccines** to support organizations 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 10 years away!

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



1. Rover. The Truth About Dog People: New Survey and Infographic Tell All. Accessed June 15, 2020. <https://www.rover.com/blog/the-truth-about-dog-people-infographic/>

2. The World Health Organization. Rabies: Epidemiology and burden of disease. Accessed July 28, 2020. <https://www.who.int/rabies/epidemiology/en/>

3. World Atlas. How Many Dogs Are There In The World? Accessed June 15, 2020. <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 June 15, 2020. <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 July 9, 2020. https://www.who.int/images/default-source/departments/ntd-library/rabies/infographics/wrd2015.png?sfvrsn=2b7449b3_2

6. Katie Hampson, et.al. Estimating the Global Burden of Endemic Canine Rabies. April 16, 2015. [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 June 15, 2020. https://www.who.int/rabies/Rabies_General_Public_FAQs_Sep2018.pdf?ua=1

8. The World Health Organization. Rabies: The Facts (PDF). Accessed July 9, 2020. https://www.who.int/images/default-source/departments/ntd-library/rabies/infographics/wrd2015.png?sfvrsn=2b7449b3_2