

# for Them for Us

In recognition of World Rabies Day 2021, MSD Animal Health is honouring the organisations, 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.**<sup>3</sup>



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.<sup>1</sup>

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

However, rabies is still a threat in 150 countries.<sup>2</sup>



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



Globally rabies costs an estimated **USD \$ 8.6 billion per year.**<sup>6</sup>

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

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.**<sup>7</sup>

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

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



## Global Organisations Are Leading Efforts

*Not-for-profit organisations Rabies Free Africa and Mission Rabies are fighting rabies with MSD 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.

### MSD 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.<sup>8</sup>

Together, we are one step closer to meeting the World Health Organisation (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, honour 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](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>