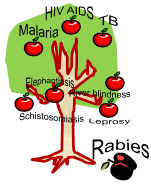


World Rabies Day: A Collaborative Initiative to..... "Make Rabies History"



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The idea of "low hanging fruit" - Rabies Prevention might be the rotten apple fallen to the ground.

Background

Although the word alone evokes a highly charged response, rabies remains a severely neglected disease. With the development of effective biologics more than 30 years ago, there is no reason why people exposed to rabies today should die. And yet, it is estimated that more than 55,000 humans die every year. Elimination of the main global source of human rabies from dog-to-dog transmission of rabies can be achieved through coordinated methodical, population-based rabies vaccination of dogs. The World Rabies Day initiative promotes collaboration for the delivery of preventative medicine, both human and veterinary – starting with rabies.

Results: 74 countries



Veterinary Students at University of Tennessee. 1 of 24 North American veterinary student bodies to plan World Rabies Day events.

Acting Locally for Global Impact

- The North American Veterinary Colleges raised funds for community level rabies prevention - 45 competing proposals from 18 countries asking for nearly US \$500,000 total.

Partners

- Intervet
- Novartis
- Merial
- Virbac
- Crucell
- Pfizer
- Sanofi - Pasteur



Methods

- Build partnerships
 - World Organization for Animal Health (OIE)
 - World Health Organization
 - Pasteur Institute
 - Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
 - many other organizations
 - Sanofi-Pasteur, Novartis, Intervet, Merial, Crucell, Virbac, Pfizer
- Advocate for improving human and animal health - a "One Medicine Approach" - through increased
 - Awareness
 - Education
 - Resources
- Develop and provide a logo in as many languages as possible

Objectives

- Raise public awareness
- Educate at-risk populations
- "Prime the pump" locally towards the achievable goal of elimination of dog-to-dog transmission of rabies and fully successful human rabies prevention.

Conclusions

The World Rabies Day initiative is envisioned to be part of comprehensive human and animal health delivery that will develop and augment public health and veterinary infrastructure in regions of greatest need.

Outcome Metrics

- At least 74 countries participated
- Over 150 events held
- 400,000 people engaged
- 600,000 animals vaccinated
- Over 54 million educated
- 50 veterinary schools participated
- Funds raised by veterinarians without borders/Veterinaires Sans Frontiers, Canada
- Over 45 proposals competing for support from these funds
- To date, nearly 50,000 visits from over 180 countries to www.worldrabiesday.org

Future Directions

- Continue to promote global involvement
- Develop support for "Start-up packages" of education material, animal vaccine, and seed funding
- Assist with national and regional plans for canine rabies control and elimination.
- Develop support for collaborative diagnostic and disease prevention training.

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