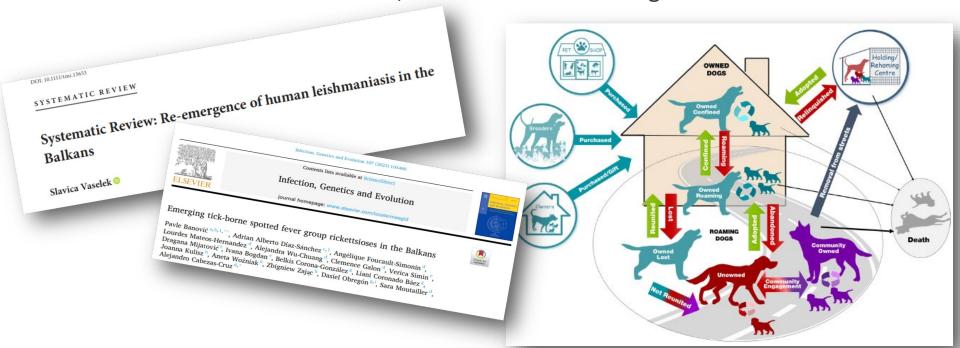


Sixth regional workshop on Dog Population Management for Balkans countries (DPM6)
Sutomore, Montenegro, 05 – 07 November 2024

## **PET-ASSOCIATED DISEASE RISKS**



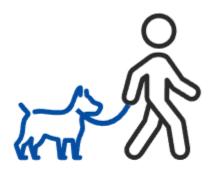
- More than 70 pathogens of pets transmissible to humans and pets often subclinical shedding.
- Dog structure and dog population dynamics variable depending upon many factors.
- Heath risks depend on many factors, and increase at extreme ages, pregnancy and immunocompromised people.
- Emerging and re-emerging diseases: Over 30 new human pathogens have been detected in the last three decades, 75% of which have originated in animals.

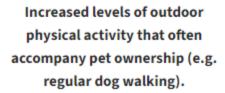


Sources: https://ipac-canada.org/photos/custom/Members/pdf/OneHealth\_Stull.pdf; Jones et al., 2008; Hiby et al., 2023,

# **HUMAN-PET BOND**









The sustained mental health benefits brought on by pet companionship.



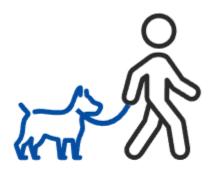
Greater exposure to germs that can 'favourably alter the gut microbiome of an owner'.

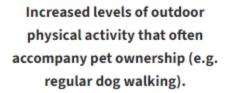
- Reduction in cardiovascular disease risk.
- Reduction in stress, anxiety, loneliness, depression.
- Shorter hospital stays.
- Positive health and welfare effects in patients affected by cancers or autism.
- For children, better social skills, self-esteem, empathy.

Sources: <a href="https://healthforanimals.org/reports/pet-care-report/global-trends-in-the-pet-population/#health">https://healthforanimals.org/reports/pet-care-report/global-trends-in-the-pet-population/#health</a>; Takashima et al., 2022; Patronek and Glickman, 1993; Friedmann and Son, 2009; Melson et al., 2009

#### **HUMAN-PET BOND**









The sustained mental health benefits brought on by pet companionship.



Greater exposure to germs that can 'favourably alter the gut microbiome of an owner'.

Therefore, dogs and humans have therefore to continue to live together for a long time and everything must be done to ensure that it goes well!

**Sources**: <a href="https://healthforanimals.org/reports/pet-care-report/global-trends-in-the-pet-population/#health">https://healthforanimals.org/reports/pet-care-report/global-trends-in-the-pet-population/#health</a>; Takashima et al., 2022; Patronek and Glickman, 1993; Friedmann and Son, 2009; Melson et al., 2009

# MOST COMMON DISEASES OF DOGS

#### Viruses

#### **Rabies**

Canine parvovirus
Canine coronavirus
Canine distemper
Canine influenza
Infectious canine hepatitis
Canine herpesvirus
Pseudorabies

#### **Parasites**

Intestinal parasites (Echinococcosis, cryptosporidiosis, etc) External parasites (fleas, ticks, mange) Heartworms

#### **Bacteria**

Brucellosis

<u>Leptospirosis</u>

Tick-borne diseases
(Rickettsiosis, <u>Lyme</u>
<u>disease</u>, ehrlichiosis, etc)
<u>Kennel cough</u>

#### Protozoa

Leishmaniosis
Babesiosis
Neosporosis
Giardiasis

#### **Others**

Fungal infections (blastomycosis, histoplasmosis, cryptococcosis, ringworm, etc)

Diabete
Cancer
Allergies
Tooth pathology
Fertilizers and
pesticides



# DOG, MAN'S BEST FRIEND

# In a context of an overall increase in owned and free roaming dog populations

- Very close physical association with the population.
- Number of zoonotic diseases that may be transmitted from dogs to people and other animals (owned or roaming dogs, dogs in shelters).
- Transmission dependent upon many factors:
  - Animal side: lifestyle of the dog, vaccination and parasite control, exposure to other domestic or wild animals, exposure to particular environments.
  - Human side: knowledge of the population, education of children, dog ownership, hygiene conditions and health care, waste management, disposal of animal carcasses, movements of the people, level of surveillance of major zoonosis.

Sources: Day, 2011; https://healthforanimals.org/reports/pet-care-report/global-trends-in-the-pet-population/#ownership;

### Transmission of infectious agents between animals and people

**Direct contact:** Coming into contact with the saliva, blood, urine, mucous, feces, or other body fluids of an infected animal. Examples include petting or touching animals, and bites or scratches.

**Indirect contact:** Coming into contact with areas where animals live and roam, or objects or surfaces that have been contaminated with germs (pet habitats as well as pet food and water dishes).

**Vector-borne:** Being bitten by a tick, or an insect like a mosquito or a flea.

**Foodborne:** Eating contaminated food. Eating or drinking something unsafe, such as unpasteurized (raw) milk. undercooked meat or eggs. or raw fruits and

vegetables that are contaminated food can cause i

Waterborne: Drinking or comir contaminated with feces from a



**Sources**: https://www.cdc.gov/one-health/about/index.html

# **DOG BITES**

- Worldwide estimations at tens of millions of injuries per year annually (≈ 76-94 % of animal bite injuries).
- Saliva from these animals can be contaminated with pathogens transmitted to humans, such as Pasteurella, Capnocytophaga, Staphylococcus, and also rabies.
- Children are the largest percentage of people bitten by dogs.



overall health

Nikolaos Syrmos\*, Andreas Televantos, Stefanos Patiakas, Nikolaos Kapoutzis



Sources: Ghasemzadeh et al., 2015; https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/animal-bites;

# OTHER RISKS CAUSED BY DOGS (BUT BECAUSE OF PEOPLE!)

- Lack of responsible dog ownership (low levels of neutering, abandonment) of puppies, etc).
  - Free roaming dogs (nuisance), dog rehoming and overcrowded shelters.
- Dog trafficking: illegally farmed for importation in EU countries.
- Limited access to veterinarian services: particularly in rural areas



**Sources:** https://www.dogstrustworldwide.com/our-priorities/balkans/

Fernando Fariñas<sup>2†</sup>

# ONE HEALTH, NEW TERM FOR AN OLD CONCEPT

- Health of people closely connected to the health of animals and our shared environment.
- One Health is an integrated, unifying approach that aims to sustainably balance and optimize the health of people, animals and ecosystems.

 One Health has become more important in recent years as many factors have changed interactions between people, animals, plants, and our

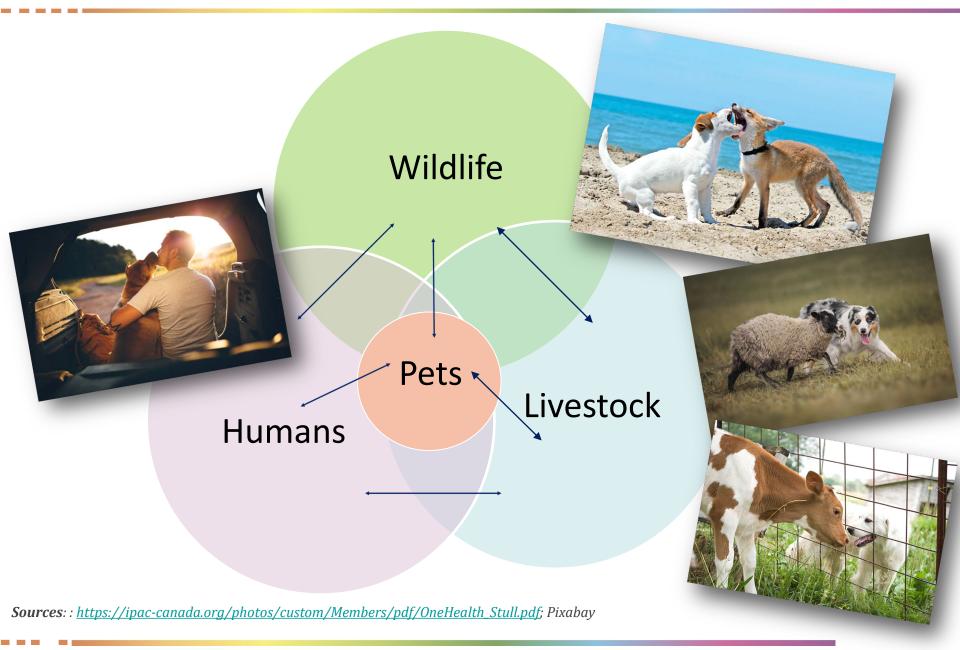
environment.

 Multiple sectors, disciplines and communities involved at varying levels of society to work together.



**Sources**: <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/one-health/about/index.html">https://www.who.int/news/item/01-12-2021-tripartite-and-unep-support-ohhlep-s-definition-of-one-health</a>; <a href="https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/global-initiatives/one-health/">https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/global-initiatives/one-health/</a>

# **PET-ASSOCIATED DISEASE TRANSMISSION**



#### **DOGS AS SENTINELS FOR DISEASE**

Animals, including dogs, may serve as sentinels for identification and pathogen testing, as well as for environmental contaminants posing health risks to the exposed human population.





Brief Report

One Health Approach to Leptospirosis: Dogs as Environmental Sentinels for Identification and Monitoring of Human Risk Areas in Southern Brazil

Natacha Sohn-Hausner <sup>1</sup>, Louise Bach Kmetiuk <sup>1</sup>, Evelyn Cristine da Silva <sup>2</sup>, Helio Langoni <sup>2</sup> and Alexander Welker Biondo <sup>1</sup>,\* <sup>3</sup>

Use of tick surveys and serosurveys to evaluate pet dogs as a sentinel species for emerging Lyme disease

Sarah A. Hamer, MS; Jean I. Tsao, PhD; Edward D. Walker, PhD; Linda S. Mansfield, VMD, PhD; Erik S. Foster, MS; Graham J. Hickling, PhD

### 

# Dogs can play useful role as sentinel hosts for disease

SIR — News that Thai dogs have tested positive for antibodies to the influenza A H5N1 virus ("Thai dogs carry bird-flu virus, but will they spread it?" Nature 439, 773; 2006) reinforces our notion that carnivore and scavenger species have the potential to act as important sentinel hosts for emerging human and livestock diseases, providing a valuable tool for surveillance and for determining spatial and temporal patterns of infection.

Domestic dogs may prove particularly

The Science of the Total Environment 274 (2001) 161-169

the Science of the Total Environment

An Intrustional Journal for Scientific Research lists the Environment and its Reduction-day with Ma

#### Canine sentinels and our shared exposome

Dogs are distinctly positioned to be indicators of human health and well-being

COURTNEY SEXTON AND AUDREY RUPLE Authors Info & Affiliations

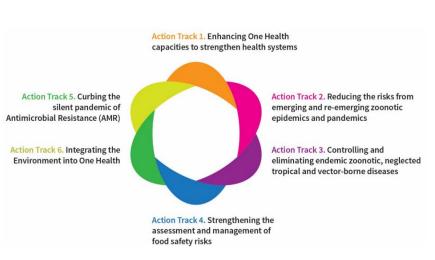
SCIENCE • 13 Jun 2024 • Vol 384, Issue 6701 • pp. 1170-1172 • <u>DOI: 10.1126/science.adl0426</u>

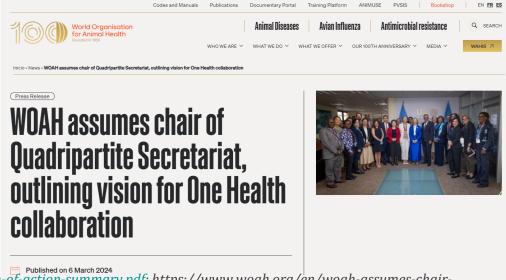
Pet dogs as sentinels for environmental contamination

Lorraine C. Backer<sup>a,\*</sup>, Carol B. Grindem<sup>b</sup>, Wayne T. Corbett<sup>b</sup>, Laura Cullins<sup>b</sup>, J. Lee Hunter<sup>c</sup>

# QUADRIPARTITE COMMITMENT FOR ONE HEALTH

- Commitment between World Organization for Animal Health (WOAH), World Health Organization (WHO), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), and UNEP (United Nations Environment Programme).
- During the Second Quadripartite Executive Annual Meeting at the United Nations
   Office in Nairobi in 2024, WOAH formally assumed its role as forthcoming chair of
   the Quadripartite Secretariat, reinforcing its dedication to combating zoonotic
   animal diseases such as rabies or vector-borne diseases through a holistic
   approach.





**Sources**: <a href="https://www.woah.org/app/uploads/2022/04/oh-joint-plan-of-action-summary.pdf">https://www.woah.org/app/uploads/2022/04/oh-joint-plan-of-action-summary.pdf</a>; <a href="https://www.woah.org/en/woah-assumes-chair-of-quadripartite-secretariat-outlining-vision-for-one-health-collaboration/">https://www.woah.org/en/woah-assumes-chair-of-action-summary.pdf</a>; <a href="https://www.woah.org/en/woah-assumes-chair-of-quadripartite-secretariat-outlining-vision-for-one-health-collaboration/">https://www.woah.org/en/woah-assumes-chair-of-action-summary.pdf</a>; <a href="https://www.woah.org/en/woah-assumes-chair-of-action-summary.pdf">https://www.woah.org/en/woah-assumes-chair-of-action-summary.pdf</a>; <a href="https://w

# **ONE HEALTH ACTION AGAINST RABIES**



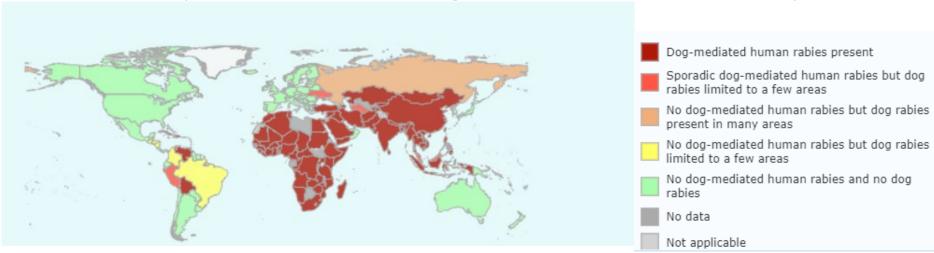
- "At the forefront of WOAH's leadership lies our robust commitment to combating rabies, a preventable yet deadly disease that still affects vulnerable communities".
- "WOAH will promote efforts to control and eliminate endemic zoonoses, neglected tropical diseases, and vector-borne diseases, with a particular focus on ending human deaths from dog-mediated rabies. Leveraging on the strategic plan Zero by 30 developed by FAO, WHO, and WOAH, OH JPA activities on rabies will operationalise the One Health approach in countries with the highest rabies burden. This includes promoting the development of national control plans while considering surveillance in wildlife, facilitating access to the WOAH vaccine bank for the vaccination of dogs (both sheepdogs in contact with wildlife and free-roaming dogs), and fostering stakeholder and communities communication".

**Source**: <a href="https://www.woah.org/en/woah-assumes-chair-of-quadripartite-secretariat-outlining-vision-for-one-health-collaboration/">https://www.woah.org/en/woah-assumes-chair-of-quadripartite-secretariat-outlining-vision-for-one-health-collaboration/</a>;
<a href="https://www.woah.org/en/rabies-control-a-model-for-one-health-collaboration/">https://www.woah.org/en/rabies-control-a-model-for-one-health-collaboration/</a>

#### **RABIES GLOBAL IMPACT**

- Rabies still a neglected, vaccine-preventable disease, 100% fatal
- ~60,000 deaths per year (one person/ 9 minutes, ~100 children/ day)
- Dog bites cause ~ 95-99% of human cases
- Weak data and under-reported
- Impacts human and animal health and welfare
- Economic losses: economic impact of US\$8,6 billion annually

# Inadequate investment in dog vaccination and accessibility to PEP



Presence of dog-mediated human rabies, 2022 (WHO)

**Source**: Hampson et al., 205; https://www.who.int/data/gho/data/themes/topics/rabies

# STRATEGIC PLAN « ZERO BY 2030 » IN A ONE HEALTH APPROACH









Zero by 30: The Global Strategic Plan to Prevent Human Deaths from Dog-Transmitted Rabies by 2030

Objective 1: To efficiently prevent and respond through effective use of vaccines, medicines, tools and technologies.

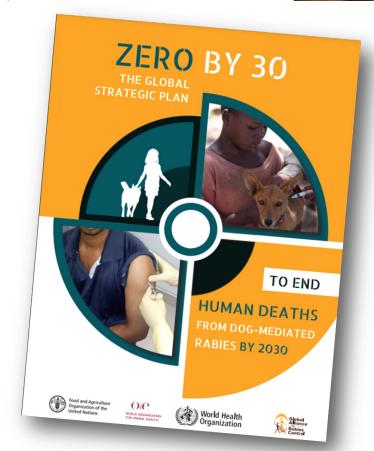
Objective 2: To generate, innovate and measure impact through policies, guidance and governance; reliable data to enable effective decision-making.

Objective 3: To sustain commitment and resources to drive progress. By providing a coherent foundation for rabies control, confidence in the feasibility of global elimination, and engages countries, research institutions and development partners in the fight to end rabies.

# GLOBAL ELIMINATION OF DOG-MEDIATED HUMAN RABIES

the time is I

GLOBAL CONFERENCE 10-11 DECEMBER 2015 GENEVA. SWITZERLAND

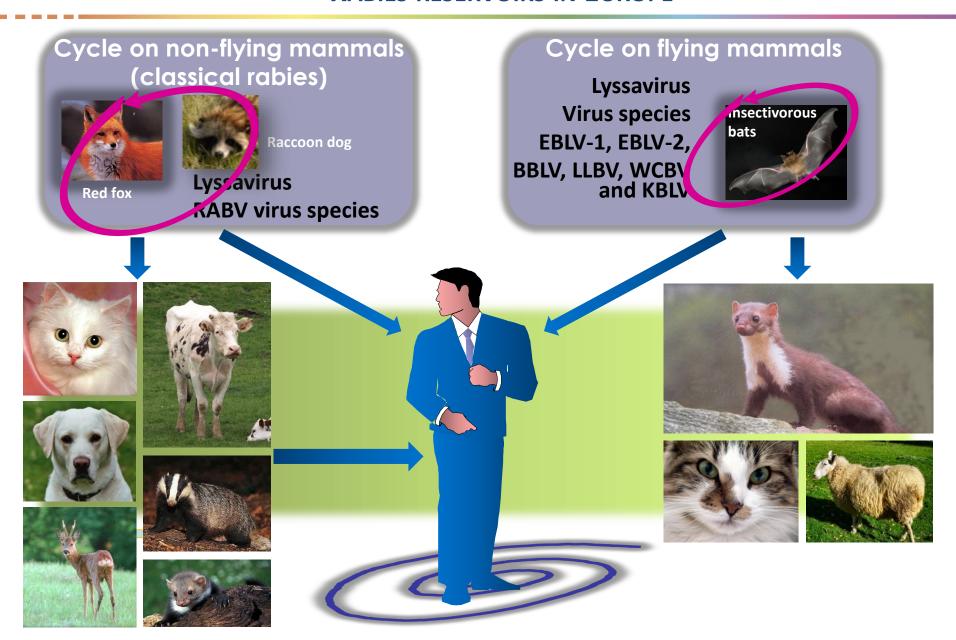


Sources: http://www.oie.int/eng/RABIES2015/publication.html - http://www.who.int/rabies/Executive\_summary\_draft\_V3\_wlogo.pdf

# **DETAILED ACTIVITY FRAMEWORK**

Objective 2.1: Policies, guidance and governance provide support				
Outcomes	Outputs	Major activities		
2.1 Policies and guidelines, and governance to prevent human deaths from rabies exposure are created and adopted at regional and national levels	2.1.1 Clear guidance, strategies, priorities and legal frameworks at global, regional and national levels provided to prevent human deaths	Complete WHO and OIE recommendations and FAO guide-lines Define guidelines for regulatory framework Update and embed stepwise approach to national rabies elimination policies and plans in line with the global framework Implementation of One Health approach embedded within strong human and animal health services	TO E HUMAN DEAT ROW DOG A MONT ARRIVE SEY 2016  (14) Objections C 2016  Objections C 2016	
	2.1.2 Efficient and effective governance of regional and national rabies elimination programmes established	Establish cross-sectoral working group Establish roles, responsibilities and accountability		
2.2 Appropriate technology and information are made available	2.1.3 Technology and health innovations to eliminate human deaths from rabies fostered	Incorporate existing tools and leverage existing programmes Promote ICT-based enablers including surveillance tools Promote supply chain innovations Promote innovation into new vaccines and vaccine strategies Promote innovative rapid and sensitive diagnostics Promote dog population management tools (e.g. movement control, contraceptive technology, identification)		
Objective 2.2: Reliable data enables effective decision-making				
Outcomes	Outputs	Major activities		
•	2.3.1 Robust disease surveil-	Initiate capacity-building for laboratory diagnostics  Train staff in surveillance and diagnostic methods	•••	

#### RABIES RESERVOIRS IN EUROPE

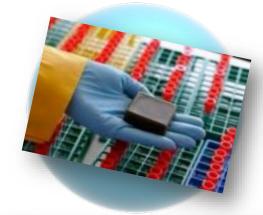


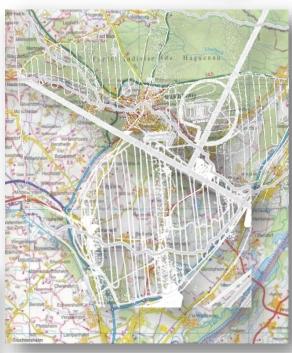
# ORAL VACCINATION METHOD: A UNIQUE CONCEPT FOR BEST COST-BENEFIT RATIO

- Bait: rabies vaccine + biological marker (tetracycline)
- Distribution of baits in spring (April May) and in Autumn (September – November)
- Regular distribution of 20 baits/km²
- Distribution by helicopter or by fixed-wing aircraft
- Choice of the area to be vaccinated:
   whenever feasible, it is preferable to
   vaccinate as a whole the totality of the
   infected area.









#### **VACCINATION OF ANIMALS AGAINST RABIES IN EUROPE**



Rabies vaccination (with inactivated vaccines) in domestic carnivores is intended:

- to protect individual animals if exposed to rabies virus,
- to prevent them from transferring rabies virus to other domestic animals or to humans.

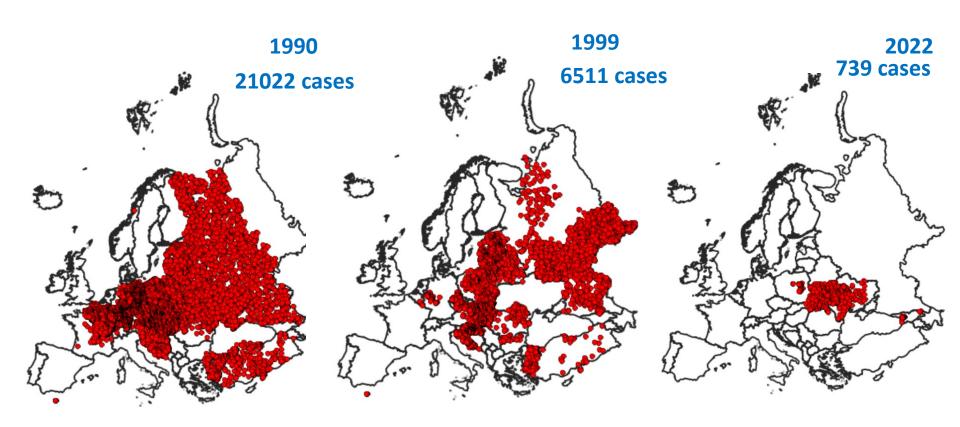
Rabies vaccination (with live vaccines) in wildlife is intended:

- to interrupt the transmission from one animal to another one,
- to eliminate the virus from those reservoirs.



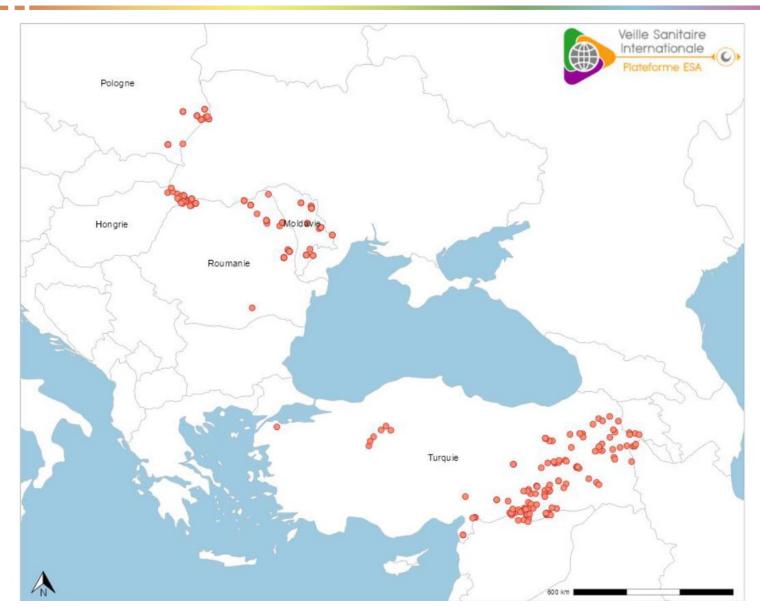
# **EVOLUTION OF RABIES IN EUROPE IN WILD AND DOMESTIC ANIMALS\***

\* Are excluded : bat rabies cases



**Source**: Rabies Bulletin Europe (compilation)

# RABIES EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SITUATION IN EUROPE IN 2024 (UNTIL 27 OCTOBER)



Sources: Compilation of ADIS data

#### RABIES EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SITUATION IN THE WESTERN BALKANS 2010 - OCTOBER 2024

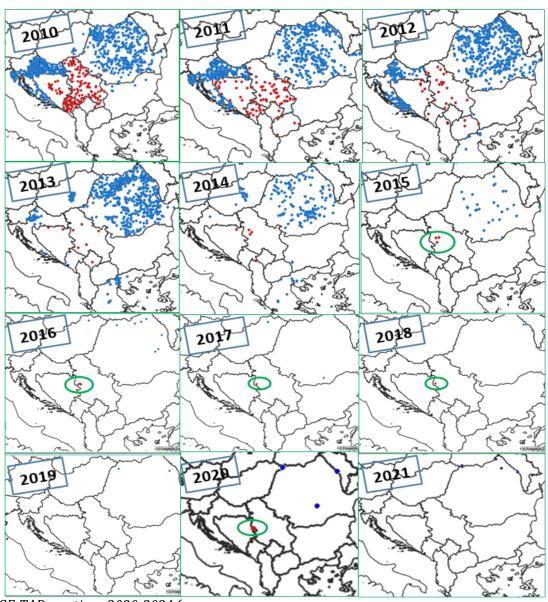


In May 2020:
one dog tested
positive for
rabies in
Srebenica, 6 km
from the border
to Serbia, 30 km
from the last foci
detected in
Serbia in 2018

# No case detected in 2019, 2021-October 2024

- EU bordering countries
- Western Balkans





Sources: Compilation of Rabies Bulletin Europe data; ADIS; GF-TAD meetings 2020-2024 (

#### PREVENTION OF RABIES RE-INTRODUCTION IN EU

Animal health requirements for the non-commercial movement of pet animals into a Member State from another Member State or from a territory or a third country into EU

- Microchip (traceability of pets).
- Anti-rabies vaccination.
- Serological test, depending on the country of origin.
- Waiting period before animal movement, depending on the country of origin.
- Border checks.

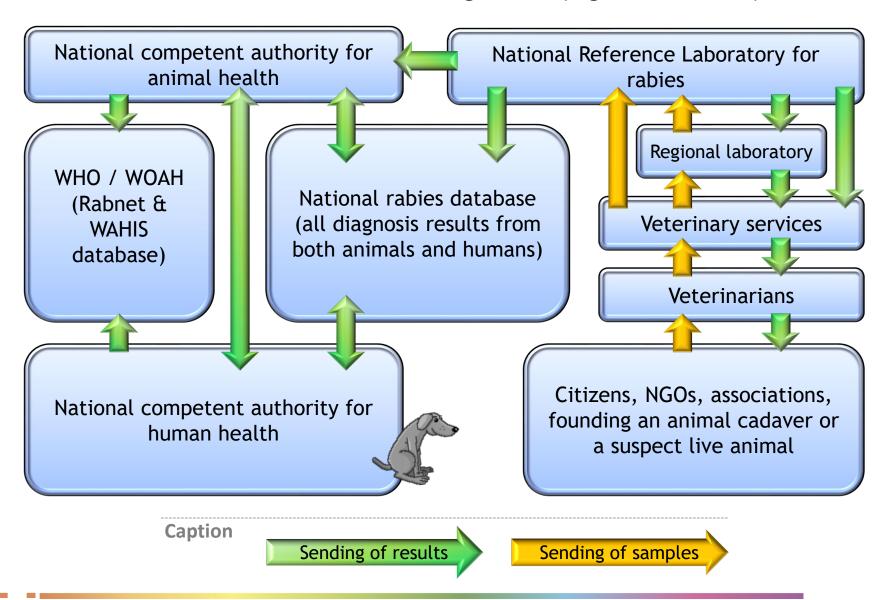
To limit illegal movements of pets to EU (introduction of exotic pathogens to EU via pets)



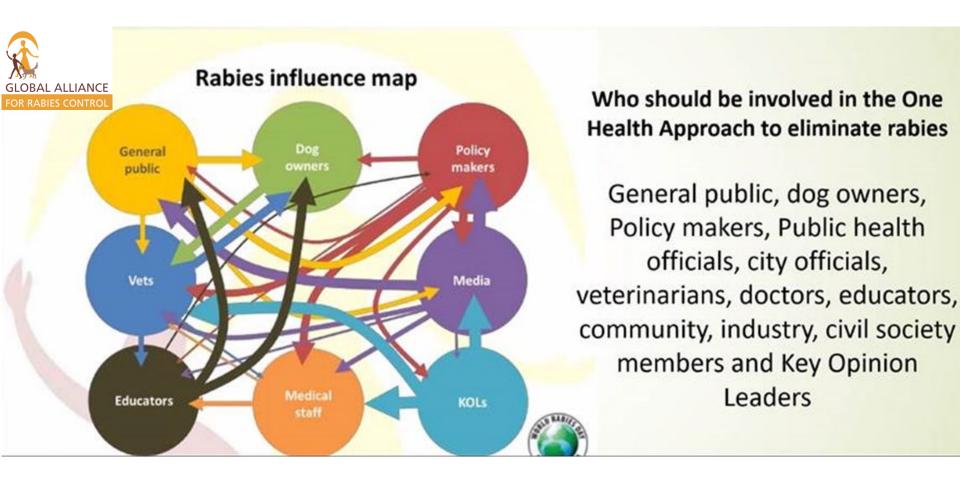
**Source**: Regulation (EU) No 576/2013 of the European parliament and of the council of 12 June 2013; Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 577/2013 of 28 June 2013

#### **EXAMPLE OF ONE HEALTH RABIES SURVEILLANCE NETWORK**

Such network should have a legal basis (legislation article)

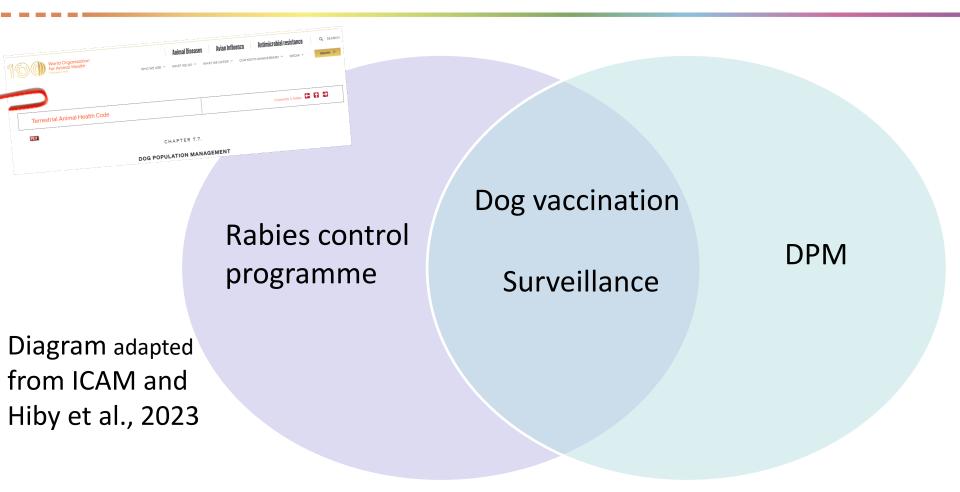


# ONE HEALTH AND CANINE RABIES CONTROL AND PREVENTION IN THE FIELD



Source: Tidman, United Against Rabies Stakeholder Meeting, 23-25 September 2024

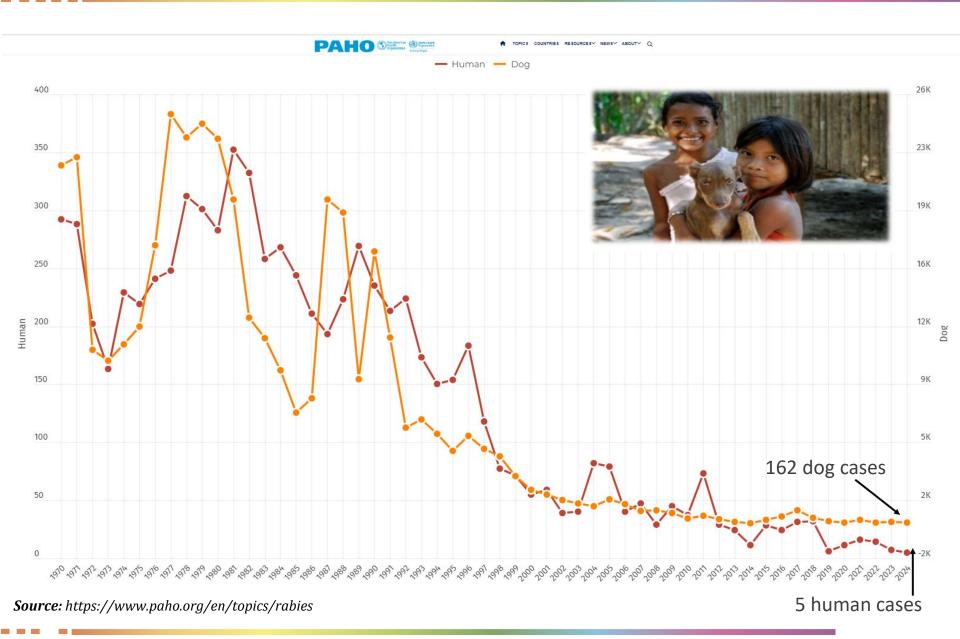
# Intersection between DPM and rabies control



« Humane DPM is effective for minimizing the risk of rabies outbreak and reducing dog population turnover and creating a healthy, sustainable population, allowing to maintain vaccination coverage and effective surveillance. Dog culling does not stop rabies ».

Sources: Hiby et al., 2023; WHO Expert Consultation on Rabies, Third report, 2018

#### EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SITUATION OF RABIES IN LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES, 1970 – Aug. 2024



#### RABIES IN LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES

PLOS ONE

Second

# How we got here? By prioritising rabies

First

22

	Endemic	
1	Rabies	
2	Leptospirosis	
3	Brucellosis	
4	Tuberculosis	
5	Salmonella	
6	Hydatidosis	
7	Campylobacteria	
8	Escherichia coli	

9 Influenza

30 10 25 19

Third

RESEARCH ARTICLE

Building the road to a regional zoonoses strategy: A survey of zoonoses programmes in the Americas

Total

Melody J. Maxwell<sup>1sa</sup>, Mary H. Freire de Carvalho<sup>1</sup>, Armando E. Hoet<sup>2</sup>, Marco A. N. Vigilato<sup>1</sup>, Julio C. Pompei<sup>1</sup>, Ottorino Cosivi<sup>1</sup>, Victor J. del Rio Vilas<sup>1sb</sup>\*

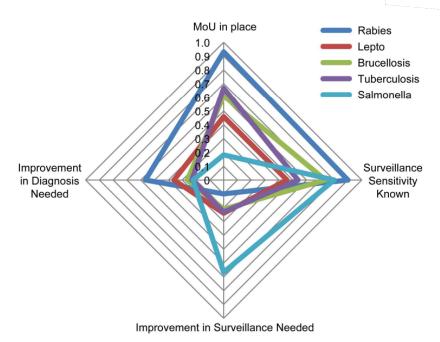


Fig 5. Comparison of the top five priority endemic zoonoses for Latin American and Caribbean

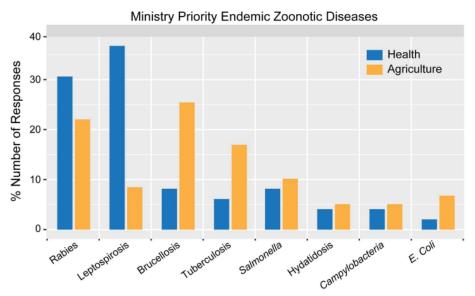


Fig 1. Comparison between the Ministries regarding their top endemic zoonotic disease priorities.

#### **KEY COMPONENTS**

- Political decision
- Community desire, perception of risk and strong support/participation
- Intersectoral participation/collaboration, including private sector, if feasible
- Control/elimination plan, at national, state or provincial and local levels
- Clear definition of the responsibility of each government level (ex: the quality of rabies vaccines either for dog or human should be controlled by the national level)
- Technical capacity development staff trained and permanently updated
- Results based follow-up



**Source:** Courtesy of Dr Marco Vigilato, PANAFTOSA/VPH-PAHO/WHO, Rabies EURL Workshop, Bucarest, June 2019; https://www.who.int/news/item/21-12-2019-mexico-is-free-from-human-rabies-transmitted-by-dogs

#### LEGAL FRAMEWORK IN EU AND CO-FINANCED PROGRAMMES ON RABIES

3.6.2020

EN

Official Journal of the European Union

L 174/211

#### **COMMISSION DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) 2020/689**

#### of 17 December 2019

supplementing Regulation (EU) 2016/429 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards rules for surveillance, eradication programmes, and disease-free status for certain listed and emerging diseases

(Text with EEA relevance)

- "For the purpose of eradication programmes for infection with RABV the vaccination against infection with RABV of stray dog populations must:
  - (a) be organised and implemented, if necessary, as part of control and management measures of stray dog populations, taking into account the risk assessment provided for in point (a) of Article 32(2)" (this point mentions that risk assessment shall be updated, as necessary, according to the epidemiological situation);
  - "(b) comply with the requirements of Section 1" (this Section refers to Vaccination of kept animals).

#### PROPOSAL FOR A EU REGULATION ON PET WELFARE

"This proposal aims to address these issues by proposing a common framework with the following objectives:





Ensuring minimum common animal welfare standards for the breeding, keeping and placing on the market of dogs and cats bred or kept in establishments,

Proposal for a

#### REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL

on the welfare of dogs and cats and their traceability

- Improving the traceability of dogs and cats placed on the Union market or supplied, including when offered for sale or adoption online,
- Ensuring a level playing field between operators keeping and placing on the market dogs and cats across the Union,
- Promoting competence for animal caretakers,
- Supplementing existing rules for the import of dogs and cats."

# **REINFORCING SURVEILLANCE SYSTEMS**

 Animal and health systems strengthening, through governance, advocacy for continued political and financial support, agile chains of command.

Disease indicators (surveillance data) collection.

 Data analysis (epidemiology, mapping, risk analysis).



Countries

No

data

No





## **ADEQUATE PASSIVE SURVEILLANCE?**

# **Surveillance indicators:**

- Do we have sufficient surveillance data to assess the real situation?
- Are data on negative cases sufficient?
- Is surveillance pressure enough regarding the size of the reservoir population?
- Are awareness campaigns enough?

Achieving a sufficient level of surveillance to assess the *true* disease situation is the priority: is the disease still in the country, even in small areas, or is it eliminated?



Source: Lojkic et al., 2021

# RAISING AWARENESS FOR PRIORITY DISEASES AND ONE HEALTH

Many levels, therefore many messages and different supports of information to be provided to *ad hoc* groups (national and local basis).



# **CHALLENGES - CONCLUSIONS**



In a context of globalization, increase in international traveling, political instability, increase in dog populations (owned and stray dogs)

- Political prioritization: Identifying diseases for which dogs are reservoir of human infection (e.g. rabies, leishmaniosis, etc) and establishing public health strategies that effectively prevent and control the diseases in reservoirs.
- Improving and facilitating inter-sectoral collaborations.
- Promoting awareness to recognize these diseases by the public and by the human and veterinary sectors.
- Developing surveillance networks for mapping these infectious agents and their vectors.
- Using WOAH recommended methods (or developing robust ones) in National Reference Laboratories well trained and equipped.
- Possibly investigating the contacts between dogs and wildlife species and developing strategies to minimize these contacts.
- Importance of research.

Sources: Day, 2011

# THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

# ANSES-NANCY LABORATORY





