

Breaking Rabies Boundaries

We all have a role to play in making positive changes to achieve what we know is possible: rabies elimination.



The Problem

Rabies is **one of the deadliest diseases in the world** for both humans and dogs. Considered a **neglected tropical disease**, rabies typically occurs in poorer communities that lack the resources and infrastructure needed for adequate surveillance, prevention and control.¹



Rabies kills an estimated **59,000** people a year, and almost **half of deaths are children** under the age of 15.¹



Rabies disproportionately affects **vulnerable and marginalised** communities, with **95%** of all human deaths in Asia and Africa.²



Approximately 99% of human rabies cases are caused by dog bites.¹



Globally, the economic burden of dog-mediated rabies is estimated at US **\$8.6 billion** per year.¹

100% Once signs appear, rabies is **almost always 100% fatal**, making prevention critical.

The Solution

Rabies is **100% vaccine-preventable**, and by **vaccinating dogs** we are also **saving human lives**.

Research shows that **the most cost-effective long-term rabies control strategy** is through vaccination of dogs in endemic areas.¹

Veterinarians and dog owners can make a difference.

Routine veterinary care, vaccination and community-wide awareness of rabies prevention can, together, help keep dogs and people safe.

There is a global goal to eliminate canine-mediated rabies by 2030. **Help be part of the solution.**

When we unite, we can help create a world free of rabies.

We cannot neglect to act on rabies—our actions matter. Breaking Rabies Boundaries means correcting misconceptions around this disease and driving community engagement in reaching the goal of zero cases of dog-mediated rabies by 2030.



For more than 25 years, MSD Animal Health has been Breaking Rabies Boundaries through our Afya Program.



Celebrating our ongoing partnership with Rabies Free Africa:

- Our vaccine donations are estimated to have prevented **400-700** human rabies deaths and **6,000-10,000** human rabies exposures.
- Every **200-350** dogs vaccinated prevents a family from suffering from a rabies exposure.



Celebrating more than 10 years partnering with Mission Rabies, we have successfully supported them in:

- Donating over **2.5 million** vaccines
- Educating over **9 million** children and adults

A One Health Approach

Breaking Rabies Boundaries requires a One Health approach—promoting joint action across sectors to tackle the disease comprehensively:

- ✓ Advocating for widespread dog vaccination
- ✓ Promoting responsible dog ownership
- ✓ Enhancing surveillance systems
- ✓ Supporting rabies education initiatives

Visit www.afya.org to learn more

1. The World Health Organization. Rabies. Accessed April 30, 2024. <https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/rabies>
2. The World Health Organization. Rabies. Accessed April 30, 2024. https://www.who.int/health-topics/rabies#tab=tab_1