



WEBINAR ON RABIES

Rabies is a neurological disease that affects all mammals and caused by rabies virus, a neurotropic virus. It is worldwide distributed disease, with exception of some countries (listed by WOAAH). The virus is transmitted between mammals and spread via saliva of infected animal upon biting another. To less extent, mammals can be infected by contact of infectious saliva or neurological tissues with mucous membranes or wounds in skin. **Once clinical signs develop, there is no effective treatment and infected mammal usually dies.**

Rabies is maintained in two epidemiological cycles, urban and sylvatic cycles. In urban cycle, dogs are the main reservoir, where there is high number of unvaccinated semi-owned or stray dogs. This is the predominant in Africa, Asia, Central and South America.. On the other side, sylvatic (or wildlife) cycle is the predominant in Europe and North America.

In light of the WOAAH initiative “ZERO BY 30; The Global Strategic Plan to end human deaths from dog-mediated rabies by 2030”, domesticated animals (especially dogs, cats and ferrets) should be vaccinated; Stray animals should be controlled, particularly dogs which represent reservoirs for a canine variant of the rabies virus; Wild animals should not be handled or fed, and bats should be kept out of houses and public buildings; Finally, wildlife behaving abnormally should particularly be avoided.

This webinar aims to provide an update on news and advances regarding recent diagnostic methods and procedures of prevention and control of rabies. At last, **this webinar aims to increase the awareness of participants to fulfil the One Health concept.**

28th September 2023 | 09:00 – 13:30 (CET)

Language: English and French

OPENING CERIMONY AND WELCOME 09:00 – 09:30

Dr. Antonia Ricci (General Director IZSve)
Dr. Pier Davide Lecchini (Ministry of Health)
Dr. Rachid Bouguedour (WOAH SRR-NA)
Dr. Mohammed Bengoumi (FAO SRR-NA)
Dr. Cristina Casalone (STOR-REMESA)

ONE HEALTH: THE ROAD TO DOG RABIES CONTROL AND ELIMINATION

CHAIRPERSON

Dr. Rachid Bouguedour
WOAH Sub-Regional Representation
for North Africa, REMESA Secretariat



09:30-09:55

THE UNITED AGAINST RABIES FORUM

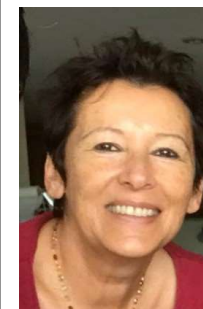
Dr. Rachel Tidman, WOAHA
Global Rabies Coordinator, World
Organisation for Animal Health



09:55 – 10:20

INTERSECTORIAL FACTORS FACILITATING RABIES ELIMINATION

Dr. Katinka De Balogh,
Visiting Scientist, Infectious Diseases and
Immunology, Department of Biomolecular
Health Sciences, Veterinary Faculty,
University of Utrecht, Netherlands





SURVEILLANCE IN ANIMALS: DIAGNOSTIC HARMONISATION

CHAIRPERSON

Dr. Mohammed Bengoumi
FAO Sub-Regional Representative for
North Africa, REMESA Secretariat



10.20 – 10.45
**INTERNATIONAL HARMONISATION OF
LABORATORY DIAGNOSIS**
Dr. Florence Cliquet, Senior expert for
Rabies – WOAHA expert for rabies - Head
of the WHO Collaborating Centre of
Nancy. French agency for food,
environmental and occupational health
safety (Anses) Nancy Laboratory for
Rabies and Wildlife.



10.45 – 11.10
**THE ROLE OF IP-TUNIS TO HARMONISE
RABIES DIAGNOSIS IN ANIMALS**
Dr. Mariem Handous

Pasteur Institute of Tunis - Rabies
laboratory (Ministry of Health, Tunisia)



11.10 – 11.30 COFFEE BREAK

CONTROL: VACCINATION OF DOGS

CHAIRPERSON

Dr. Rachel Tidman
Global Rabies Coordinator, World
Organisation for Animal Health



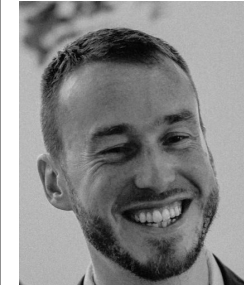
11.30 – 12.00

FEASIBILITY OF USING ORV IN DOGS
Dr. Ad Vos
Veterinary Public Health, Ceva Sante
Animale, Libourne – France



12.00 – 12.30

**STRATEGIC DOG VACCINATION: A
RESOURCE-CONSIDERATE APPROACH
TOWARDS RABIES ELIMINATION**
Dr. Terence Scott
GARC Middle East, Eastern Europe, Central
Asia and North Africa Rabies Control Network
(MERACON) Steering Committee



12.30 – 13.00 ROUND-TABLE CLOSURE REMARKS

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Rachel Tidman

She is the Global Rabies Coordinator, based with the World Organisation for Animal Health. Her key role is coordinating the United Against Rabies Forum, a global network of rabies stakeholders, led by FAO, WHO and WOA. The activities of this network support the implementation of the Global Strategic Plan, Zero by 30.

Katinka De Balogh

She studied veterinary medicine in Berlin and Munich and obtained her doctorate in tropical parasitology (Germany) and specialized in tropical animal production (France) and Veterinary Public Health (VPH) (the Netherlands). She moved to Africa where she worked as a District Veterinary Officer (DVO) in rural Zambia and lecturer at the veterinary faculties of Lusaka (Zambia) and Maputo (Mozambique). She worked on rabies at World Health Organization (WHO) and from 2002-2022 worked for the Food and Agriculture Organization in various function at its headquarters in Rome and at the Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific in Bangkok. Here she has led the Veterinary Public Health and One Health activities of the organization and was FAOs Tripartite focal point for rabies. She contributed to the development of the Rabies Blue-print and has initiated the Step-wise-approach towards the elimination of dog-transmitted rabies (SARE) together with the Global Alliance for Rabies Control (GARC). For the FAO Emergency Management Centre, she was team-leader in rapid response missions to rabies outbreaks including during the introduction of rabies into Bali in 2008 and addressing outbreaks of rabies in Vietnam. Currently she is part of the Steering Committee of the United Against Rabies Forum.

Florence Cliquet

She has been graduated in Biochemistry and Chemistry from the University of Lille, France. In 1992 she obtained a PhD in Sciences of Biology at Faculty of Medicine (Laboratory of Immunology), University of Nancy, France. She has been working since April 1992 onwards as Head of Unit for Rabies and Director in Anses. The laboratory currently operates as EU reference laboratory for Rabies, WOA reference laboratory for rabies and WHO collaborating centre for research and management in zoonoses control.

She is providing scientific and technical support in animal rabies epidemiology for the French Ministry of Agriculture (DGAI) and Ministry of Health (DGS), and for international bodies (European Commission, WHO, WOA, EFSA, IAEA, European Pharmacopoeia) and their Member States.

Mariem Handous

She is currently serving as the Head of the Rabies Laboratory at the Pasteur Institute of Tunis (IPT), Tunisia, she manages the country's primary Reference Laboratory for rabies diagnosis in both animals and humans. Her responsibilities include overseeing diagnostic procedures, conducting serological tests, and actively contributing to research initiatives. Her commitment to animal health and disease control is further evident in her previous role as a Veterinary Officer, where she audited milk collecting facilities and promoted awareness of animal health practices. In addition to her practical experience, Mariem holds academic achievements, including MSc in Functioning and Management of Aquatic Ecosystems. Her ongoing pursuit of a PhD in Biology focuses on rabies sero-epidemiology in dogs in Tunisia, reflecting her dedication to advancing our understanding of this critical public health issue.

Ad Vos

He is a wildlife biologist and has been working on oral delivery of biologicals to free-roaming animals for more than 30 years, incl. vaccine – and bait development. Prior to joining Ceva SA, he worked for IDT Biologika after he finished his PhD-study at Ludwig Maximilian University in Munich (Germany) and former Federal Research Institute for Viral Diseases of Animals in Tübingen (Germany).

Terence Scott

He is the Director of Programs at the Global Alliance for Rabies Control (GARC). Terence has worked in more than 15 Low- and Middle-Income countries to support their efforts towards achieving rabies elimination. He thus understands the contexts and needs faced by resource-constrained rabies endemic countries and has the field-experience to develop appropriate tools and programs that are both sustainable and practical. Terence is a developer and administrator of the Rabies Epidemiological Bulletin, a surveillance system dedicated to rabies surveillance that is used in more than 48 countries globally. He is the World Rabies Day team lead and is the lead for the MERACON Regional Rabies Control Network. He is actively involved in supporting various stakeholders in the implementation of rabies intervention programs and drives rabies advocacy as the GARC representative of the Action for Animal Health Coalition, among others. Terence has more than 20 peer-reviewed scientific publications and 3 book chapters.