

Global Meet for Containment of Rabies

Report

Date of Event - 28th September 2021

Time: 1:00pm – 4:00pm (IST)

In view of World Rabies Day, 28 September, 2021, a webinar titled 'Global Meet for Containment of Rabies' was conducted by the Indian Network of Neglected Tropical Diseases (iNTD) – an initiative of Amrita Institute of Medical Sciences, in collaboration with the Swiss Alliance for Neglected Tropical Diseases (SANTD).

Keynote speaker for the day was Dr Dirk Engels (Senior Advisor, Uniting to combat NTDs and Former Director, Dept of Control of Neglected Tropical Diseases, WHO-Geneva). Dr Salome Durr (Asst. Professor in Veterinary Epidemiology, University of Bern, Switzerland), Padma Shri Dr Omesh Kumar Bharti (State Epidemiologist, State Institute of Health & Family Welfare, Govt of Himachal Pradesh) and Dr Thomas Mathew (Joint Director of Medical Education, Govt of Kerala) made presentations on varied aspects of Rabies.

A total of 269 delegates had registered for the event, which included participants from UK, Germany, Switzerland, Japan, Ethiopia and India, making it truly a global affair.



The Programme started at 1pm (IST) with the welcome and opening remarks by Prof. Dr K N Panicker (Chairman, iNTD). Message for World Rabies Day was given by Mr Rene Staeheli (Chairman, SANTD). Dr Prem Nair (Patron, iNTD) gave the inaugural address for the event. Felicitations were given by Dr (Col) Vishal Marwaha (National Advisor, iNTD). Dr Beena KV (National Advisor, iNTD) & Dr Paul T Francis (Chief – Scientific Affairs, iNTD). The first session was the keynote address by Dr Dirk Engels on the topic 'Global Perspective to reach Zero Human Deaths from Rabies'. Next session was handled by Dr Omesh Kumar Bharti who spoke about Rabies Infection in the Indian Context. Dr Salome Durr spoke about 'The Role of Free-Roaming Domestic Dog Ecology for Rabies Control'. The Final Session was handled by Dr Thomas Mathew

elucidating the 'Rabies Situation in Kerala'. Concluding remarks was given Dr Teena Mary Joy ((General Secretary, iNTD). All the sessions were interactive and the participants found them interesting based on feedback received. The programme concluded at 4pm. Participation certificates were given to all registered delegates.


Rabies in the 2021-2030 NTD roadmap and partners' framework

- Integral part of 2021-2030 road map with ambitious, actionable targets*
- Effort required in line with burden
 - ✓ AFR > SEA > EM > WP AM, EUR
- Integral part of *Uniting to Combat NTDs*' mandate to care for all 20 NTDs
- Remaining hurdles identified in terms of
 - ✓ Health workforce capacity building for adherence to SOPs, information management and tracking, and rapid response systems (health systems issues)
 - ✓ The OIE rabies Vaccine Bank is operational, though demand forecasting and management of vaccines still must come to scale
 - ✓ Willingness of countries to take ownership for Zero by 30

*Number of countries to have achieved zero human deaths from rabies: 66 (47%) in 2020; 69 (53%) in 2023; 113 (87%) in 2025; 155 (82%) in 2030






The role of free-roaming dog ecology for rabies control



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Switzerland

iNTD SANTD Webinar
'Global Meet for Containment
of Rabies'
28/09/2021
World Rabies Day

Burden of rabies vaccination of Dogs- Pet and Stray (Rs. 300/- per shot)

- The population of pet dogs in India amounted for around 19.5 million in the year 2018. The population was forecast to reach over 31 million by the end of year 2023. This led to the increase in of pet food sales, from approximately 139 million U.S. dollars in 2014 to approximately 285 million dollars in 2018.
- India has a massive street dog population of an estimated 35-40 million. But more than its size, the bigger issue is that the animals are massively neglected.
- The costs of dog vaccination and sterilization in Shimla have been brought down from \$ 12 to \$ 9 through pooling the surgical materials.
- Efforts to have strategies to reduce costs involved to keep the environment garbage free, animal sterilization and human/ animal vaccination can help "One Health" approach to be more acceptable to decision makers.

ONE SHI BHARTI

