

The Blueprint for Canine Rabies Prevention and Control

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Abstract

The Blueprint for Canine Rabies Prevention and Control is a tool developed by the Global Alliance for Rabies Control and its Partners for Rabies Prevention network. This is a practical tool that combines existing international legislation, guidance on implementing all elements of rabies control programmes, and case studies into an easy to use guide for programme managers as they plan, implement and assess canine rabies control interventions.

Following an accessible question and answer format, this online tool is freely available in English, French and Spanish, with much more detailed information reached through hyperlinks. The information and guidance are divided into five (5) main sections:

- Introduction to the tool
- Roles and responsibilities of stakeholders
- Infrastructure, legislative framework, and costs and funding considerations
- Communications planning
- Operational activities, which form the bulk of the Blueprint.

Over 100 pages linking to additional resources are provided. Several ways to navigate the content are provided, including a site map, menus and a search facility, and the Stepwise Approach towards Rabies Elimination (SARE, a planning and monitoring system, elaborated in a parallel presentation) is fully integrated to assist with long-term planning towards elimination.

The Blueprint for Canine Rabies Prevention and Control is available at www.caninerabiesblueprint.org.



Why is the Blueprint necessary?

The Partners for Rabies Prevention recognized that although the knowledge of how to control canine rabies exists and guidance on this was in place, this information was not easily accessible by all who needed it.

A freely-accessible, frequently updated, online resource was envisaged as a single point of entry to all relevant information on canine rabies control. It combines expert knowledge with practical field-based experience to provide guidance that can be readily turned into improved rabies control efforts in any setting.



A user-friendly format linked to all relevant resources

The canine blueprint is available in English, French, and Spanish.

Designed as an integrated standard operating procedure, it brings together all necessary resources for a "One Health" approach to controlling rabies. It includes:

- Over 120 pages of answers to questions on all aspects of canine rabies control
- Relevant international guidance and regulations on canine rabies control, human treatment, surveillance, biosecurity etc.
- Detailed Standard Operating Procedures on specific techniques
- Practical advice on how to adapt techniques to different settings
- Case studies of how specific problems have been overcome
- Over 100 pages of links to further detailed information.

It is freely accessible to anyone with an internet connection, but there are also downloadable pdf files of the most relevant information for offline distribution.

Multiple navigation tools

Menus and a site map show an overview of all the content. A search facility enables information to be directly accessed.

An interactive diagram of the components of an effective rabies control programme provides an overview of how to plan rabies control programmes.

Long-term planning towards rabies elimination and evaluation of progress made is provided by the Stepwise Approach towards Rabies Elimination (SARE) which is fully integrated into the Blueprint.

How is it being used?

The Blueprint is freely available to anyone online. It is also being introduced to participants at regional rabies meetings across the world and is promoted on the rabies information portals of the WHO and OIE.

It is referenced in the WHO SEARO's Strategic Framework for Elimination of Human Rabies Transmitted by Dogs in the South-East Asia Region. Amongst other efforts it has supported the development of the Kenya National Rabies Elimination Strategy, to develop a field officers' manual for rabies in the Philippines, and to update the national rabies control plan in Haiti.

