

## HOW TO PREVENT



(Name of the country), with support from the European Union, has been implementing oral rabies vaccination since (year).

This is the only proven method to eliminate rabies in wild reservoir animals—red foxes.

Thanks to this approach, most of European countries have successfully eradicated rabies, and it has also been highly effective in controlling the disease in our country.

The most important preventive action in domestic animals is the compulsory vaccination of dogs.

All dogs must be regularly vaccinated against rabies. Particular attention should be given to dogs that are closely connected to the natural environment, such as shepherd dogs, hunting dogs and dogs living in rural areas. Free-roaming dogs also play an important role in the rabies transmission cycle.

In (Name of the country), municipalities are responsible for organizing the vaccination of free roaming dogs and for the effective management of the dog population.

Together, we can minimize risk from rabies!

### HUMANS:

How people can get infected?

Rabies is usually spread through direct contact with saliva from an infected animal, such as through a bite or less commonly through a scratch.

Avoid contact with animal if you suspect rabies.

You can prevent rabies! If you were injured by animals or had suspected contact, immediately wash the wound with excessive amounts of running water and soap for at least 10 minutes. Immediately go to see your doctor.



## WHAT IS RABIES?

Rabies is a **deadly viral disease** that affects all mammals, including humans. It attacks the central nervous system, and once clinical symptoms appear, it is always fatal.

However, **rabies is 100% preventable in humans**, even after contact with infected animal.

Rabies has not been detected in [Country] for the past XX years. The next step is to prove disease absence through strong passive surveillance and to maintain that freedom with effective preventive measures in animals.



## WHERE IS RABIES?

Rabies was affecting people and animals for millennia, reaching nearly every part of the Globe. Nowadays, most of European countries have officially declared freedom from rabies, while the disease remains a serious problem in parts of Asia, Africa and South America.

In recent years, rabies has re-emerged in parts of Eastern Europe, spreading rapidly and reminding us that freedom from rabies is not permanent.

## WHO CAN GET INFECTED?

All mammals – including humans – can get rabies. In Europe, wild animals like foxes are the main reservoirs of the virus. They can spread rabies to domestic animals, especially dogs and cats, but also to livestock. Any infected animal, wild or domestic, can transmit the virus to people.

## HOW THE FREEDOM OF A COUNTRY MAY BE DEMONSTRATED

Animals with unusual behavior, salivation, difficulty in swallowing, restlessness and disorientation;



An animal that is tireless, hyperactive, and overly sensitive to light, sound and water;



Disctinct changes in barking or howling,

Dead animal, or animal killed on the road;



**REPORT TO YOUR VETERINARIAN IF YOU NOTICE ANY OF THESE SIGNS**

A wild animal seen wandering during the day and showing an unusual lack of fear or increased aggression to other animals or humans.



Unusual aggression in domestic animals;



Lack of coordination, paralysis, coma, or death;



If you see any of these symptoms in domestic or wild animals, please call the toll-free number (xxx-xxx)!

Veterinarians will test these suspected cases to confirm whether rabies is present. Absence of positive cases will help us demonstrate that our country is rabies-free. Your role is vital!