CDC’s Rabies Experts

Preventing Rabies Across the Globe
The slides that follow show just a sample of all the work the CDC Rabies Team does in the United States and throughout the world – to support rabies surveillance, lab diagnostics, medical and veterinary care, and education to prevent and control rabies. CDC’s Rabies Lab in Atlanta is an international reference lab – meaning, it can test samples from around the world and confirm if rabies virus is present.

CDC’s Lillian Orciari and Richard Franka (far right) provide guidance to laboratory staff in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.
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Vietnam
CDC’s Rabies Experts
in Vietnam

CDC Veterinary Epidemiologist Ryan Wallace, CDC Wildlife Biologist and Disease Ecologist Jeff Doty, and Epidemic Intelligence Service Officer Cuc Tran head out with a Ministry of Forest team to demonstrate how to set traps for potentially rabid wildlife and take samples for rabies testing.

Summer 2015
CDC’s Rabies Experts in Vietnam

CDC Veterinary Epidemiologist Ryan Wallace and Epidemic Intelligence Service Officer Cuc Tran taught these Ministry of Forest rangers/veterinarians how to humanely catch animals and test them for rabies. Cuc is holding a tree shrew the team caught.

Summer 2015
CDC’s Rabies Experts
in Vietnam

CDC Epidemic Intelligence Service Officer Cuc Tran and Veterinary Epidemiologist Ryan Wallace helped the Ministry of Forest turn this storage shed into a makeshift lab. Here, Cuc takes training photos and translates as Ryan demonstrates the proper way to wear personal protective equipment, prepare samples taken from potentially rabid bats, and clean instruments.

Summer 2015
Just outside a bat cave in Vietnam, CDC rabies experts worked with Ministry of Forest rangers/veterinarians to test a couple of very sick bats to determine their illness. They were testing the bats for rabies and other pathogens that are harmful to humans.
CDC’s Rabies Experts in Vietnam

CDC Wildlife Biologist and Disease Ecologist Jeff Doty and the Ministry of Forest’s Veterinarian for Wildlife Rescue, Cuong Nguyen, watched over a sleeping tree shrew before they released it back into the forest. They anesthetized the shrew before collecting samples, which were tested for rabies and other pathogens potentially harmful to humans.

Summer 2015
CDC’s Rabies Experts in Vietnam

CDC Epidemic Intelligence Service Officer Cuc Tran gave a presentation on rabies to physicians, veterinarians, and animal control officers in Phu Tho, a province that has one of the highest rates of human deaths from rabies in Vietnam. She discussed the severity of rabies, which animals can carry the rabies virus, and how to protect people and animals from rabies.

Summer 2015
During a training in Pho Tho, CDC Veterinary Epidemiologist Ryan Wallace taught veterinarians and animal control officers how much medicine to use to anesthetize dogs, based on the dog’s weight.

Summer 2015
CDC’s Rabies Experts
in Vietnam

CDC Veterinary Epidemiologist Ryan Wallace with “Little Ryan,” a healthy dog that was adopted by an epidemiologist in Vietnam.

Summer 2015
Veterinary Student Anna Jacobs joins Kelly Crowdis of the Christian Veterinary Mission and CDC’s Ryan Wallace and Jeff Doty to collect samples from potentially rabid wildlife in Haiti.

Summer 2015
At this CDC-sponsored workshop in Carrefour, Haiti, 35 physicians and nurses learned about ways to prevent rabies deaths. They were given materials they could use to educate their colleagues and their patients about rabies.
CDC worked with Haitian officials and partners to develop a comic book featuring a popular Haitian comic book character, Ti Joel, with important messages about how children can protect themselves from rabies.

Reaching children with these messages is critical because most of those who die of rabies are children.

Summer 2015
CDC’s Rabies Experts

in Haiti

CDC teamed up with partners to offer a rabies education certificate course to 48 veterinary professionals from across Haiti. The course was developed by the Global Alliance for Rabies Control (GARC).

Summer 2015
Veterinarian and Presidential Management Fellow at CDC Modupe Osinubi (far right) joined with veterinarians from the USNS Comfort to grade course exams for participants taking GARC’s Rabies Education Certification Course. More than 80% of attendees passed the course exam.

Summer 2015
After earning his GARC certificate as a rabies educator, this veterinary agent in Grassier, Haiti, took his megaphone and rabies education materials out into the community to begin educating people about how they can protect themselves from rabies.

Before the end of the training, one human rabies death (not previously identified as being from rabies) had already been identified.

Summer 2015
Veterinarian and Presidential Management Fellow at CDC Modupe Osinubi (in pink) with veterinarians from the USNS Comfort.
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Democratic Republic of the Congo
Members of the CDC Rabies Team traveled to Boende to conduct research on the epidemiology and ecology of rabies as well as monkeypox. Here, the Ecology Team processes specimens in a field lab. They collected blood, body fluid, tissue samples, and skulls from wild and domestic animals.

Spring 2015
The Ecology Team heads out to contact hunters at Tokumbo, a village about 9 kilometers from Boende. The CDC team worked with local hunters to test their animals for rabies, monkeypox, and a host of other infections. In these remote parts of the world, where people rely on bushmeat for survival, diseases can jump from wildlife to people and domestic animals.

Spring 2015
cdc.gov/rabies