



# DRIVING PROGRESS TOWARDS RABIES ELIMINATION

Results of Gavi's Learning Agenda on rabies and  
new WHO position on rabies immunization



Meeting Report  
1–3 May 2018, Kathmandu, Nepal



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## ACRONYMS & ABBREVIATIONS

<b>ADG</b>	Assistant Director General
<b>ARACON</b>	Asian Rabies Control Network
<b>ASEAN</b>	Association of South-East Asian Nations
<b>CDC</b>	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
<b>eRIG</b>	equine rabies immunoglobulin
<b>FAO</b>	Food and Agriculture Association of the United Nations
<b>GARC</b>	Global Alliance for Rabies Control
<b>HRH</b>	Her Royal Highness
<b>hRIG</b>	human rabies immunoglobulin
<b>IBCM</b>	integrated bite case management
<b>ID</b>	intradermal
<b>IDSP</b>	Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme
<b>IM</b>	intramuscular
<b>MoA</b>	Ministry of Agriculture
<b>MoH</b>	Ministry of Health
<b>NCDC</b>	National Centre for Disease Control
<b>NTD</b>	neglected tropical disease
<b>NTV</b>	nerve tissue vaccine
<b>OH</b>	One Health
<b>OIE</b>	World Organisation for Animal Health
<b>PARACON</b>	Pan-African Rabies Control Network
<b>PEP</b>	post-exposure prophylaxis
<b>RIG</b>	rabies immunoglobulin
<b>SAARC</b>	South Asian Association for Regional Coordination
<b>SAGE</b>	Strategic Advisory Group of Experts on Immunization
<b>SARE</b>	Stepwise Approach to Rabies Elimination
<b>SIRVERA</b>	Regional Rabies Surveillance System in the Americas
<b>VIS</b>	Vaccine Investment Strategy
<b>WHO</b>	World Health Organization

*"Rabies is entirely preventable, and should not take lives... It is an enemy we can defeat. Let's work together for a rabies-free world"* - Dr Ren Minghui (Assistant Director General (ADG), Communicable Diseases, WHO)

- Awareness of rabies disease, and what to do in case of a bite;
- Access to timely, affordable post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) for people; and
- Mass dog vaccination to prevent disease at its source.

- (i) Disseminate new SAGE recommendations on human rabies immunization;
- (ii) Discuss results of studies under the Gavi Learning Agenda on rabies; and
- (iii) Determine needs and next steps to reach zero human deaths by 2030, worldwide “Zero by 30”.

HRH was supported by Dr Ren Minghui (WHO ADG, Communicable Diseases) and local officials and dignitaries, including the Secretary of the Ministry of Health and Population Dr Pushpa Chaudhary, the Secretary of the Ministry of Livestock Development Mr Prakash Mathema and the Minister of State for Health and Population the Honourable Ms Padma Kumari Aryal. Drs Naveen Gupta (India) and Wenwu Yin (China), and Drs Amila Guneseckera (Sri Lanka) and Kinley Penjor (Bhutan) accepted their nomination as co-chairs and co-rapporteurs, respectively.

*“Rabies is not a statistic: it’s about people. It’s about suffering, about humanity, about public service and public good... and trying to reach equity and access for all” – Dr Bernadette Abela-Ridder (WHO-NZD)*

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