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EDITORIAL

This year we will observe our fifth World Rabies Day (WRD). What an accomplishment from everyone around the globe. By working together, we have managed to bring educational messages to more than 150 million people across the world. Truly, this initiative has enabled citizens living in small communities, rabies experts and public health workers from around the world to loudly exclaim that we can win the battle against rabies.

The Global Alliance for Rabies Control (GARC) is also very proud of our other accomplishments during the past five years. For example, the *Blueprint for Canine Rabies Elimination* freely available [online](#), was coordinated by Dr Tiziana Lembo from the University of Glasgow and developed in association with GARC the Partners for Rabies Prevention (PRP). The Blueprint continues to be a valuable resource that many countries are utilizing to tackle the elimination of canine rabies and prevention of human rabies. This year at our biannual PRP meeting, to be held on October 16th in San Juan, Puerto Rico, we will be discussing the development of a new section for the Blueprint that will focus on the use of Oral Rabies Vaccination of Wildlife with a special focus on foxes. Dr Thomas Mueller and Dr Conrad Freuling from the Friedrich-Loeffler-Institute in Wusterhausen Germany are coordinating the project along with many global experts with experience in the field.

We are also pleased to announce that the study to re-assess the global burden of rabies, headed by Dr Katie Hampson from the University of Glasgow, and supported through the PRP and GARC is nearing completion and will provide new and valuable data in the fight against rabies. These data will also be discussed in San Juan at the Rabies in the Americas conference. Last but definitely not least, we are very proud of the success of the global webinar focusing on rabies prevention that is being hosted for the second year through a joint effort with the Rabies Laboratory at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). We are expecting participants from more than 70 countries to log on and participate in the two day event! It is another free resource supplied by GARC. The webinar is being coordinated by Peter Costa from GARC and Jesse Blanton from the CDC.

Deborah J Briggs, Executive Director Global Alliance for Rabies Control

NEWS FROM GARC AND WRD

World Rabies Day Aims for 150 Countries!



Since 2007, World Rabies Day events have been reported from 135 different countries. This year, the WRD Team is aiming for 150. Help us reach our goal by sending in your event submission as soon as possible through the WRD website. Adding your event to the website not only brings global visibility to your efforts but helps others find an event in their local community. Some events that have already been reported include a Radio and TV Education Program on Rabies Spread and Prevention in Bo City, Sierra Leone with panelists from the Ministries of Health and Agriculture. The Radio and TV Program is expected to reach 1 million people. Across the US, numerous humane organizations, shelters and veterinary hospitals such as Banfield Pet Hospital in Lilburn,

Georgia, will host rabies vaccination clinics and provide educational materials to clients about rabies prevention. In Australia, veterinary students from the University of Sydney, Queensland and Melbourne will be hosting a 5K and 10K "Run for Rabies" fundraiser. Exhibition panels educating the public about rabies will be on display at the Mega Mall in Tai Po, Hong Kong. Game booths will be set up to allow the public to learn about the importance of the prevention of rabies through fun games and win souvenirs at the same time. A seminar on rabies will also be delivered by veterinarian and Q&A sessions will be available. A goal of the program is to clarify any myths about rabies with the public. In Maharashtra State, India, All India Radio in Yavatmal will broadcast a special talk on rabies awareness and in New Delhi, pre-exposure vaccination and proper steps for post-exposure prophylaxis will be discussed during the screening of a film on rabies in Jahangirpuri. To find a World Rabies Day event near you please visit www.WorldRabiesDay.Org.



Five years of World Rabies Day Celebrations in Mexico

The Ministry of Health in Mexico is coordinating the fifth annual celebration of this International event with the participation of the 32 State Health Services (SESA). Since 2007, they have celebrated World Rabies Day (WRD) with an academic forum including topics to make the audience remember aspects of the risk factors and preventive measurements for the rabies problems, and also a field activity to emphasize the message.

Each one of the 32 State Health Services has a commitment to conduct WRD celebrations but there is also a national ceremony that is hosted in different states according in accordance with their own request.

Reviewed topics were chosen and prioritized, based on the need to share them with the community to develop a prevention culture.

For WRD in 2007 the topic was the State and National epidemiological status of human and canine rabies as well as the results of control activities conducted: Dog and Cat mass vaccination, medical care of people bitten, active surveillance of rabies and pet sterilization.

During the WRDs of 2008 and 2009, the chosen topic was to inform the community on the importance of dog and cat welfare principles, as well as a poster competition for elementary school children. That was the first time that Mexico won the Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO)'s Award for the best national event in Latin American and Caribbean countries.

For WRD in 2010, the topic was the role of the dog in society and the field activity was conducting mass dog and cat sterilization campaigns (each state conducted 100 surgeries simultaneously); the final report indicated 3,200 surgeries completed in one single day, and that gave Mexico their second PAHO's Award as the best national event in Latin America and Caribbean region.

For the WRD celebration in 2011 (September 28th), the plan includes a National Ceremony in Guadalajara, Jalisco (located in the Pacific coast, in the North-Western area). Jalisco is in the process of being certificated as a State free of dog rabies transmission. The hosts of the event include the National and State Authorities, and Health Services local staff (Physicians and nurses) and students of Medical Schools will all participate. They have also designed a poster for this celebration (pictured) with the message: "An animal bit you and you suspect rabies?"

Ask for medical care in your nearest health clinic. Health Services Personnel will offer you high quality medical care, they will dress your wound, and if it is needed they will give you a medical prescription and PEP. The vaccine is free."

The 32 State Health Services (SESA) will develop two activities. First, a compulsory local forum with the topic: "Medical and Rabies Prevention care for people exposed to rabies virus", with the participation of Medical School Students as well as Health Services Personnel in rabies clinics. The topics will be: the relationship between human and animals, origin and evolution of rabies vaccines: benefits and risks, damages when serious lesions occur in people of the community as well as accessibility to Post Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP). And second, An optional activity, developing again a minimum of 100 sterilization surgeries in each state.

Contributed by Dr. Fernando Vargas Pino, Underdirector of the Zoonosis Program, CENAPRECE/SALUD/Mexico, MVZ. Verónica Gutiérrez Cedillo, Chief of the Department of Rabies in Reservoir hosts. UDRP/CENAPRECE/SALUD/Mexico and MVZ. Luis Lecuona, Agricultural Specialist in Animal Helath. USDA/APHIS/IS-W/S/Mexico who helped with translation.

World Rabies Day: What Does It Mean to YOU?

Peter Costa, the World Rabies Day coordinator, gives a personal perspective.



This year marks the fifth annual observance of World Rabies Day. As reports of events flood into www.WorldRabiesDay.Org and media inquiries abound, I can't help but wonder what kind of difference this Campaign has truly made in communities around the world living in danger of rabies on a daily basis. Looking back at the inaugural Campaign in September 2007 and our seemingly impossible goal of engaging 55,000 people, it's hard to imagine that since that day, more than 150 million people have somehow been involved, educated and are better equipped with knowledge and resources to protect themselves and their family members from rabies. World Rabies Day (WRD) means something different to everybody because rabies affects everyone differently. However, the common thread amongst every single person working to control rabies across the world is the ongoing need for awareness and education

about how to prevent rabies. Before WRD, no one knew how many people were working in their own communities around the world to combat the spread of rabies. Many of these individuals were operating in isolation and with no support structure; often in regions where rabies control programs were needed the most but had been abandoned or were non-existent. WRD and its widely recognized logo have not only given these individuals something to stand behind, but provides a unified concerted effort for which everyone is welcome and for whose tireless efforts will no longer go unacknowledged. World Rabies Day has changed the face of rabies forever and communities around the world living at daily risk to this disease will no longer be neglected. On this fifth anniversary of WRD, I encourage everyone to step-up and make a difference in your own community. No effort is too small. Educate your neighbors. Talk to your children. More than likely, you know someone that could benefit from rabies education. It may just save their life.



The 2011 educational poster

WRD & Rabies Control Activities at NCDC, Delhi

Rabies is a disease where a person sees his own death. The certainty of death and the uncertainty of the hour of death is a most dreadful experience. Ironically, the person is tormented with thirst and fear of water at the same time. Studies in India have shown that people who die due to rabies have either not taken any treatment or have received partial or inappropriate treatment.

The National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC), Directorate General of Health Services under Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoH & FW) has observed WRD since its inception. This is in accordance with the global objective of preventing human rabies deaths by increasing awareness amongst the general community regarding rabies and its prevention which includes timely and appropriate treatment and responsible ownership of animals and working toward the coordination of veterinary community and medical resources on a “One Health” approach. Various activities have been carried out since 2007 (see picture)

In 2010, NCDC, adopted a novel approach to observe WRD. It was organized in collaboration with the Delhi School of Social Work, University of Delhi and over one hundred social work post graduate students were sensitized on rabies and its prevention. These students interact with low socio economic groups and create awareness on day to day issues including animal bites and rabies. This year the focus is on school teachers and students. It is proposed that teachers will be educated on rabies and its prevention and will in turn impart knowledge to students. As well as a public lecture, a poster competition with prizes will be held in the schools.

Observing WRD has also helped in sensitizing policy makers and in launching a pilot project to prevent human rabies deaths in 2008 which is being carried out as a ‘New Initiative’ in 5 cities: Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Pune, Madurai and Delhi. The objectives of the project are prevention of human deaths due to rabies, enhanced awareness in the general community, increased trained health manpower, strengthened diagnostic facilities, strengthened surveillance and maintenance of continuous surveillance and sensitization of other sectors.

To date, 43 core trainers trained at NCDC, Delhi have in-turn trained approximately 2065 doctors and paramedical staff in appropriate animal bite management in the pilot project. Improvements are:

- Uniform and appropriate animal bite management as per the guidelines.
- Wound washing facilities in all the centres.
- 54 centres in the pilot project cities have implemented the more economical Intra-dermal route of inoculation of cell culture vaccines.
- Increased and appropriate use (local Infiltration in the wound) of immunoglobulins.
- Establishment of new Anti-Rabies Clinics (ARCs) in Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Pune.

Prior to initiation of the project available data was analyzed which indicated that many people did not seek post exposure treatment after animal bites leading to high mortality. The general community related rabies to “Dog-bites” only. None of the pilot project cities was carrying out awareness campaigns to create awareness in general community. Prototype



Just some of the WRD activities carried out at NCDC, since 2007.

educational material was developed at NCDC, the pilot project cities translated and disseminated it adopting innovative methods to create awareness in general community. For example, in Pune radio jingles are played in between the popular programmes, messages are displayed on the rear of the public buses. In Ahmedabad, scroller machines, with important messages scrolling on them, are placed in strategic locations. Similarly, in Bangalore pamphlets are distributed frequently with the daily newspapers with the addresses of anti-rabies centres. Stickers with simple pictorial messages have been pasted in public transport buses and in public places in Madurai. Hoardings have been put in all the pilot project cities. Posters have been displayed in schools and antirabies treatment centres. After the initiation of the project there is enhanced awareness regarding animals

transmitting rabies and timely and appropriate animal bite management in general community as indicated by increase in attendance at ARCs and reporting of animal bites other than from dogs.

In addition, one laboratory in each pilot project city has been strengthened and surveillance has been strengthened. An Interface is being developed with veterinary sector so that a comprehensive strategy for control of rabies can be rolled out through out the country.

Contributed by Veena Mittal, Mala Chhabra, R L Ichhpujani, and L S Chauhan of the WHO Collaborating Centre for Rabies Epidemiology, Delhi.

Ride for Rabies

Each year, scientists and veterinarians from the Animal Health and Veterinary Laboratories Agency in the UK set themselves a challenge in order to raise awareness for World Rabies Day and funds for GARC. 2011 was no exception, and joined by colleagues from Defra, the University of Cambridge, and the Institute of Animal Health, a 17 strong team set off from Paris with the aim of cycling the 200 miles from the Institut Pasteur, back to the AHVLA's laboratories at Weybridge, Surrey.

Day 1 saw the team navigating their way out of Paris, to the intrigue of tourists and locals alike. Making it out into the French countryside, a deluge of unexpected rain had everyone soaked but didn't dampen any spirits, which remained high over the 3 days despite numerous slips, skids and one rather too close encounter with a tree!

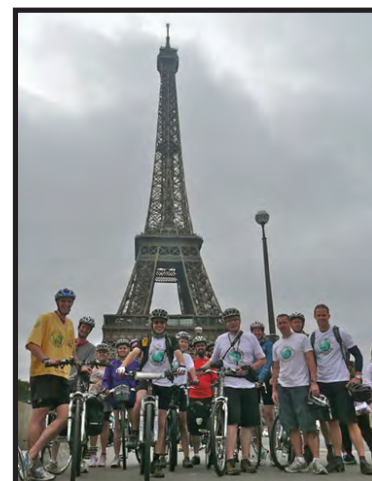
Many members of the public were interested to know more about the cause, and the team were able to raise awareness of the dangers of the disease and the scale of the problem by talking to passers-by both in France and England. It is alarming to realise that in the three days it took to cycle from Paris to Weybridge, over 400 people worldwide would have died from rabies, with a large proportion of those being children.

Late afternoon on August 15th, the weary but triumphant team pedalled the last few metres into the AHVLA Weybridge still in one piece, albeit with a few physical souvenirs! A fantastic reception from colleagues, friends and family had everyone smiling, and looking forward to what next year's challenge might bring.

Since completing the cycle over £1000 has been raised for the GARC and the team are very grateful to all those who have contributed. Further contributions can be made at www.justgiving.com/World-Rabies-Day-2011.

Contributed by Daniel Horton and Emma Wise of the AHVLA.

The Alliance's sincere congratulations and thanks go to all of the riders: Dan Horton, Emma Wise, Ash Banyard, Hubert Buczkowski, Stacey Leech, David Selden, Nick Johnson, Sarah McGowan, Andrew Breed, Balazs Toth, Julian West, Alison Peel, Olivier Restif, Bryony Armson, Mike Cowls, Nicola Bennett and Gavin Moire as well as the car support crew of Claire and Mike who followed patiently behind.



New educational materials and presentations

Lack of awareness continues to be the top reason why people continue to die from rabies across the world. That's why this year we've expanded our [education bank](#) with new posters for Afghanistan, China, Haiti and the Caribbean Region as well as updated materials, toolkits and talking points for health departments, media personnel, school teachers and veterinarians. Some recently contributed resources also available on the website include a "Be Safe Around Dogs" coloring book for children, "Rabies PEP Basics" free online course for health care providers and lesson plans for school children. On September 28, 2011, World Rabies Day events and observances will help raise awareness and education about the need to vaccinate animals, wash bite wounds and seek medical attention immediately after a bite. Awareness of these three steps will help save a person from rabies. By communicating these simple life-saving messages on World Rabies Day, we can all get involved and make a difference.

Please also join the more than 3000 participants from 72 countries that have already registered for the 2nd Annual World Rabies Day Webinar on Sept 21-22, 2011. The Webinar brings together noted leaders in rabies research, One-Health advocates, professionals, students and World Rabies Day event planners in real-time to discuss the important public health issue of rabies while providing a forum for dialogue within and across disciplines. The two day event will focus on canine rabies elimination; human rabies surveillance, prevention and intervention; wildlife rabies control; information and education campaigns and building sustainable programs. Day 1 (Sept 21) of the Webinar will concentrate on presentations from Asia, the Middle East, Europe and Africa. Day 2 (Sept 22) will spotlight talks from North America, Latin America and the Caribbean Regions. There is no cost to attend the Webinars but registration is required. For more information please go to <http://webinar.worldrabiesday.org>.



NEWS FROM THE COMMUNITY

Of Guard Dogs, Coconut Trees and Rabies

The motorcycle wound its way through the rocks lining the dirt road. A few yards ahead, three more riders moved forward, bathed in the heat of the sun hanging high in the blue wide open sky. Open plains dotted with tiny flags and the occasional carabao whizzed past, with every turn along the track opening unto glimpses of far off hills and bubbling brooks. A picturesque beginning to a day of surveying in Camotes Island.

As part of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation project headed by the Department of Health in cooperation with the Department of Agriculture and the Medical Research Council (UK) - the Animal Welfare Coalition conducted a series of household surveys in the 4 municipalities that make up the island group of Camotes.



The elimination of both canine and human rabies in the Visayas hinges on the combined efforts of both agencies and the individual local government units. Mass vaccinations of dogs against rabies are taking place all throughout the Visayas and additional support for bite victims has been provided in most urban and rural district hospitals. The survey project was initiated to assist the government in assessing vaccination coverage in Camotes as well as to provide insight into the characteristics of the canine population and the dynamics that exist between it and the island’s human population.

With the assistance of the Provincial Veterinary Office of Cebu and the staff of the Municipal Agricultural Offices of Pilar, Poro, San Francisco and Tudela – approximately 1400 dog-owning households were surveyed. Over the course of three weeks of surveying, the project generated a large amount of data that

will eventually be analyzed and reformatted into pie charts, bar graphs and figures. But most importantly, it reaffirmed the important connection that Responsible Pet Ownership has in the implementation of the Anti-Rabies Law and its subsequent programs.

More often than not, households that place importance on owning a dog as a companion pet or guard dog, will take the initiative to bring their dogs for vaccination and registration themselves without having to wait for the next mass vaccination to be scheduled. They keep a collar on the dogs, tie them to a secure spot to avoid causing accidents and are more than eager to boast of how friendly and well-behaved their dog is.

Whether it be a house in the far flung bukid, or along the coastline or even the barangay captain’s in the central district – if the owners are taught the importance of securing yearly vaccination for their dogs, as well as how to properly raise their canine companions – the problem of rabies may soon come to an end in the Philippines.

Contributed by Maria Alyssa Yee Policarpio, RN, the Project Liaison Officer, Animal Welfare Coalition, Philippines.

Celebrating one year without a reported human case of Rabies in KZN

The KwaZulu-Natal (KZN) province of South Africa has been plagued by dog rabies over the past several decades and 79% of the South African laboratory-confirmed human cases between 1983 and 2007 occurred in this province. KZN is home to an estimated 10.6 million people (21.3% of the South African population) and shares international borders with 3 countries, and provincial borders with 2 separately administrated provinces. This, together with the wide distribution of dwellings in rural areas, creates unique challenges for rabies control and the establishment of a rabies free area.

In 2009 the BMGF (Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation), in cooperation with the WHO, started a pilot canine rabies elimination programme in three candidate dog rabies-endemic territories (Kwa Zulu Natal province in South Africa, the south-eastern part of Tanzania and the Visayas archipelago in the Philippines) to demonstrate that human rabies can be prevented through the control of rabies in dogs rabies. This concept was also intended to support the ‘one medicine’ paradigm shift in global public and veterinary health approaches. Over the past three years this project has progressively taken shape, as systems and logistics have been put in place and control campaigns started.

In KZN the project sought to bring sustainability to existing control measures in a region plagued by constant challenges in

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...RABIES IN KZN continued from page 5.

service delivery. Despite a slow start in terms of administration of the project, the ongoing field and associated activities have proved very effective – to the point that we can now celebrate one year without a diagnosed case of human rabies!

The absence of reported human rabies cases over a period of 12 months is very significant for KZN and worth celebrating as:

1. KZN surveillance has always been of a relatively high standard and although it is possible that undiagnosed cases may have occurred, the fact remains that this is the first time in 20 years that KZN has not recorded a human death from Rabies in a one year period.
2. Much training and awareness has been conducted around the province over the past two years in both the health and public sectors. These efforts will have improved the chances of us identifying human rabies cases.
3. Historically human rabies cases have followed the trend of the animal rabies cases. The latter have decreased steadily from 363 in 2007 to a projected 156 cases this year. These figures thus support the drop in human rabies cases.

The 5 year Gates Foundation project aims at human and dog rabies elimination from KZN at the beginning of 2014. The possibility however remains that there may be other human fatalities before the disease is finally eliminated from dogs in KZN.

Though the financial input from the BMGF represents a relatively small percentage of provincial actual expenditures to manage its rabies problem, the collective influence of the Gates Foundation's name, the technical input from the World Health Organization, as well as that from numerous international experts from many top institutions around the world who visited the project, has boosted the KZN rabies project profile, brought sustainability and encouraged, motivated and influenced the direction and purpose of the efforts in KZN.

We hope that this achievement will boost the efforts of all those involved to continue to strive for our ultimate goal - the complete and sustainable prevention of human dog mediated rabies cases through dog rabies elimination - firstly in KZN, then in neighbouring provinces, and eventually in all RSA neighbouring countries affected by rabies.

Reproduced from the [WHO website](#)

OIE Conference on rabies prevention at the source a huge success!

Between September 7 – 9th 2011, the OIE along with its international health partners, WHO and FAO, hosted a global conference in Incheon, Republic of South Korea focusing on “Controlling rabies at the source of infection”.

Representatives from most of the 178 member countries were in attendance. In his remarks to the delegates in attendance, Dr Vallat, Director General of the OIE stated that two diseases have been eradicated from the world, the first one was small pox eradicated through the direction of human health and the second, announced just this year, was rinderpest, eradicated through the direction of veterinary public health. Dr Vallat went on to state that it was now time for human and veterinary health officials to work together using a ‘One Health’ approach to tackle the problem of canine rabies. He further mentioned that if One Health is not able to work with rabies, it is not going to be

able to work for any disease.

During the conference, rabies experts from around the world discussed many topics concerning the prevention of rabies including: Current and future tools; economic models; international standards and regulatory issues; the role of stakeholders in rabies control; new approaches in dog rabies control; strategies to eliminate dog rabies; and building sustainable programs.

The [recommendations from the meeting](#) are now available on the OIE website. Some of the key recommendations state: that the OIE, WHO and FAO should consider rabies a priority and encourage international solidarity and donor support for countries in need of funding to initiate and sustain control programmes for rabies; that member countries are encouraged to participate in the annual observation of [World Rabies Day](#); that laboratory twinning and training programmes should be encouraged; and that dog population management, rabies control and animal welfare be included in the basic core curriculum of the initial training of veterinarians and para-veterinarians. Additionally, they encourage countries to make rabies a notifiable disease and support the new study re-evaluating the global burden of rabies that is being coordinated by Dr Katie Hampson from the University of Glasgow with support from the Partners for Rabies Prevention and the Global Alliance for Rabies Control.

Contributed by Dr Deborah Briggs, executive director of the Alliance, and a participant at the Seoul meeting. There is a [press release](#) about the meeting and [two videos](#) of questions to Dr Bernard Vallat, and Dr Noel Tordo available on the OIE's website.



Reality Bites

After many years of creating and providing dog bite prevention curriculum and materials for children, I had to bring all my rabies knowledge to the fore during a recent trip to Nepal.

Let me explain, I am a communicable disease health educator in North Carolina. I write educational materials in English and Spanish about a myriad of diseases, one being rabies. I had the wonderful opportunity to go trekking in Nepal this spring. One of the first things that got my attention while traveling in Nepal was the number of dogs in the streets that seemed to have no owners. We might call them “feral” dogs, but that usually makes us think of dogs traveling in packs and looking scary. These mutts were mostly scrawny, docile animals which could be found sleeping in the streets of Nepal’s cities and towns.

One day, when we were about 10 days walk away from any roads, one of these sleeping ownerless dogs that I had seen in the villages, suddenly jumped up and bit ME in the rear as I walked by.



None of my training in dog bite prevention could have helped me since this dog was seemingly fast asleep as I walked by. We usually teach children to: Ask before petting a dog; Keep their faces away from dog’s faces; Be like a tree or like a rock (stay still) if a loose dog approaches them; And never bother a dog when it’s eating, sleeping or with puppies.

Fortunately, my understanding of rabies was able to help me decide what course of action to take. My guide immediately wanted to have me helicoptered out to begin rabies post exposure prophylaxis. After planning for this trip for so long and saving the money needed to go, I was reluctant to give up the trip half way through – besides we still hadn’t reached the pass and we had several days before our return to Kathmandu. I was thinking that I should have considered Pre-exposure vaccination before I left! We quickly asked the villagers if they knew the dog and learned that it had bitten frequently over the past year, the last time being 3 weeks prior. Since the dog was still alive, I hoped that it was just a biting dog and not a rabid one. I also knew that if the dog remained healthy for 10 days, it would not have had rabies virus in its saliva when it bit me. I decided to continue on my trek since we would be at a major medical center within a few days. We washed the wound well with warm soapy water for 15 minutes, used an antiseptic and bandaged the bite well. Immediately upon return to Kathmandu, I visited a local clinic and was able to start

post exposure prophylaxis before leaving the country and finished my rabies vaccine series within a month.

While the memory of the bite is fading quickly, my love for the people I encountered, the beauty of the place and the thrill of finishing my trek will stay with me a lifetime.

Contributed by Carla Piedrahita, Health Educator in the Communicable Disease Program, Wake County Human Services. Her children’s coloring book on dog bite prevention and rabies prevention flyers are available from the WRD Education Bank.

The observation period for biting dogs is set at 10 days because if the dog had rabies virus in its saliva at the time of a bite, within 10 days it would be showing clinical signs of rabies, or be dead. WHO recommendations are that PEP should be started immediately after a bite, but that if the biting dog remains healthy after 10 days, PEP can be discontinued.

Upcoming conferences

The Rabies in the Americas (RITA) 2011 meeting will be from October 16-21 in San Juan, Puerto Rico. The meeting website is www.ritaxxii.org

The International Congress on Canine Practice will be held in Bikaner, Rajasthan, India on 9-11th February 2012. Further details can be obtained from www.intcaninecongress12.com or by emailing isacp2012@mail.com.

The 3rd Rabies in Asia Conference (RIACON) will be held November 28-30th, 2011 in Colombo, Sri Lanka. For programme details and to register please go to www.rabiesinasia.org/3riacon-2011.html

