



# Rabies in Tunisia

4<sup>th</sup> MEEREB Meeting, 2018  
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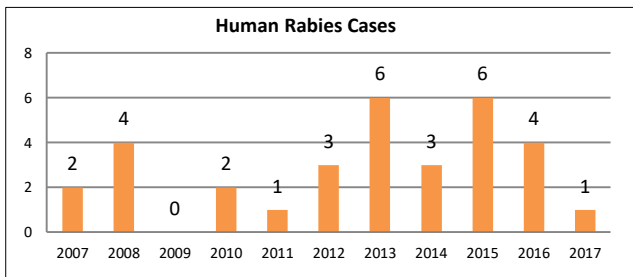


## INTRODUCTION

Rabies is endemic and enzootic in Tunisia. Dog is the main reservoir and vector of the disease. We still notify 3 deaths per year due to rabies infection. During the last years, we recorded more than 300 animal cases each year. All animal and human cases are confirmed by laboratory testing. Rabies control program is based on four components: mass dog vaccination campaigns, PEP, Dog population control and population awareness.

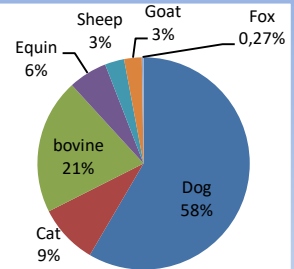
### HUMAN RABIES IN 2017

**N° of animal bites** Not notifiable  
**N° of rabies deaths** 1  
 - Clinically diagnosed No clinical confirmation  
 - Laboratory confirmed 1  
 Human rabies is a notifiable and reportable disease, since **29/7/1969 (law n°69/53)**

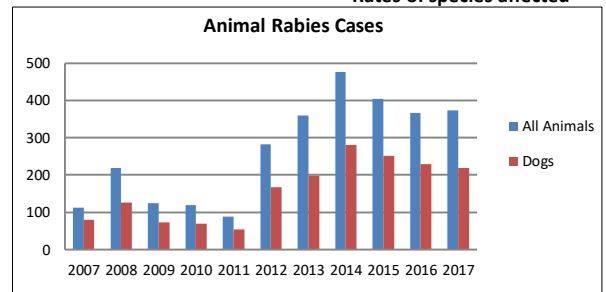


### ANIMAL RABIES IN 2017

**N° of animal / dog rabies cases**  
373 (Animals) and 218 (Dogs)  
**N° of animals tested** 1067  
**N° dogs vaccinated** 429971  
**% dogs vaccinated** 64%



Animal rabies is a notifiable and reportable disease since 1985



### PRE-EXPOSURE PROPHYLAXIS (PrEP)

Vaccination schedule (route/n° doses): IM / 3 doses (D0, D7, D21-28)  
 Vaccine used : Rabipur  
Populations at risk who receive PrEP: Laboratories workers, Veterinary and technicians in charge of mass vaccination campaigns  
 PrEP administered for exposed workers is free of charge

### POST-EXPOSURE PROPHYLAXIS (PEP)

Vaccination schedule (route/n° doses): IM 4/5 doses Zagreb & Essen schedules  
 Vaccine used : Rabipur  
 N° of persons who received PEP: 43,070  
 N° of persons who received RIG : 15,809  
 Administration of PEP is free of charge : Budget of Ministry of Health

Rabies control is performed through a National Program for Rabies Control ,coordinated by the National commission for rabies control.  
 he National commission is composed by members from the Ministry of Agriculture , Ministry of Health and Ministry of Interior

## KEY ACTION POINTS –

Actions	Achieved or Progress so far?	Challenges	Future actions
1) Mass dog vaccination campaign from January 2018 till March 2018	Achieved	Increase vaccination coverage	Support endemic regions with specific actions and involve volunteer vet students
2) Conception of a website for rabies <a href="http://www.rage.tn">www.rage.tn</a>	Web site published online. Including informations, maps and video sequences	Access to information for everyone	Update data and improve website with videos, pictures and maps Realise a video to be shown on TV
3) PEP Training for public health agents	7 training sessions done during the last two years	PEP is carried out according the protocol established	Training of trainers to duplicate trainings in specific regions
4) Evaluation of the National Rabies Control Program	Achieved	Provide indicators for a better rabies surveillance	SOPs