

**Q8.** *What should a dog owner do if their dog bites people ?*

- Capture your dog if this can be done safely and restrain your dog by tying it to a fence.
- Contact the veterinarian, para-veterinarian, or local authorities.
- Help the bite victim to go to the local health care centre or hospital.

*Timely  
Vaccination  
against  
Rabies will  
protect all !*



## *Vaccinate your Pet*

- **1st Dose at 3 months of age**
- **Repeat Annually**



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आज़ादी का  
अमृत महोत्सव

**RABIES....**  
**beware and**  
**be aware !**

**100% FATAL but**  
**100% PREVENTABLE**  
**with VACCINATION**



Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying  
Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying  
Government of India

## Q1. What is Rabies ?

- A zoonotic disease which is predominantly spread among humans by biting dogs and other animals.
- The deadly disease is caused by the Rabies virus invading the victim's nervous system, through a bite wound.

## Q2. Why is Rabies dangerous to humans ?

- No cure is possible once a person develops Rabies symptoms.
- People who get bitten by rabid dogs and do not receive timely and sufficient series of post-bite vaccinations and / serum needed, can die because of rabies.

## Q3. How is Rabies transmitted to humans ?

- Rabies is transmitted when a dog's saliva enters under a person's skin. This, most often, happens when a rabid dog bites a person and the rabies virus in the dog's saliva enters through the bite wound.
- Dog handlers are also at risk as dog saliva may enter an open wound or they may be exposed to the brain and nerve tissue.

## Q4. How to prevent Rabies in dogs and its transmission to humans ?

- Register your dogs with the nearest veterinary service / institution and have your dogs vaccinated against rabies.
- Annual dog vaccination for rabies is the best way to prevent the spread of rabies in dogs and people.
- Do not let your pet dog roam around. (If dogs are not allowed to roam free, this greatly reduces their chances of being exposed to rabies.)
- Keeping a muzzle on your dog when they are in public areas prevents them from biting people and other dogs, reducing the risk of rabies exposure to family, friends and neighbors.

## Q5. What are the signs of a rabid dog ?

*There are two different ways that dogs show signs of Rabies:*

- **Dogs with furious rabies** can demonstrate extreme behavioral changes including attack behavior, overt aggression, growling, barking, seizures, hydrophobia (they are scared of water), or excessive salivation. They die afterwards.
- **Dogs with paralytic rabies (referred to as dumb rabies)** can demonstrate muscular weakness, lack of coordination, and may not be able to swallow. At a later stage, this is followed by paralysis, dropping of the lower jaw and excessive salivation. They die afterwards.

## Q6. What should a person do if they are bitten by a dog?

*Follow ALL three steps given below to avoid a possible rabies infection:*

- Wash and flush the wound immediately for at least 15 minutes continuously with running water and soap. If soap is not available, flush with running water alone. This is the most effective first-aid treatment against rabies.
- Clean the wounds thoroughly with alcohol or a disinfectant like povidone-iodine.
- Go to the nearest health care centre or consult a doctor to report as soon as possible.

- Do NOT panic !
- Do NOT cover the wound with a dressing or bandages; this may make it worse.
- Do NOT rely on self-treatment and do not seek treatment from traditional healers.

## Q7. What to do with the dog that has bitten a person ?

- Call the local veterinarian, para-veterinarian, or local authorities to report the dog bite.
- Keep a watch on the dog for the next 10 days.

