

Current Rabies Scenario in Pakistan



Rabies

- Rabies is a zoonotic viral infectious disease caused by an envelope, negative sense RNA virus— a member of the Lyssavirus genus within Rhabdoviridae family.
- This infection is transmitted to human by the animals already suffering from it.



Rabies kills
someone,
somewhere in
the world,
every 10
minutes



Rabies in Pakistan

- Pakistan is a rabies endemic country.
- Pakistan is facing a threatening situation regarding rabies.



National Overview (2024–2025)

- **Annual Deaths:** 2,000–5,000 (99% from dog bites).
- **Six-Month Dog Bite Cases (2024):** 170,169 nationwide.
- **Awareness Gap:** Only 22% of population understands rabies fatality.

- **PEP Coverage:** <50% in rural areas



Province-Wise Breakdown Epidemiology:

Punjab

Punjab:

Dog Bite Cases (6 months): 103,139

– **Hotspots:** Rawalpindi (100 cases/month in hospitals).

Sindh

Total Cases (2024): 300,000+ (49,268 officially recorded Jan–Sep).

– **Karachi:** 50,000 cases, 18 deaths (2024).

– **Daily Average:** 120 cases/day.



- **Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP)**
 - **Annual Cases:** 12,000+ (2023–2024).
 - **Six-Month Cases (2024):** 2,184
- **Baluchistan**
 - **Six-Month Cases (2024):** 3,191
- **Gilgit-Baltistan (GB)**
 - **Six-Month Cases (2024):** 78 (~3/week).
- **Azad Jammu & Kashmir (AJK)**
 - **Six-Month Cases (2024):** 2,301



Major concerns about rabies

- Lack of
 - One health approach
 - Sensitization of policy makers for animal rabies control
 - Animal disease surveillance system
- Limited access to modern rabies vaccines and immunoglobulin
- Limited budgeting to control rabies in animal



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Thanks

