

How dog vaccination saves lives in the Serengeti



the future of vaccination



In the UK we sometimes take our health – and that of our pets – for granted. Vaccination has been around for so long that most dangerous diseases can be kept at bay.

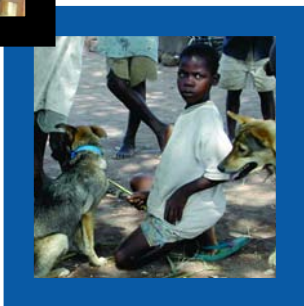
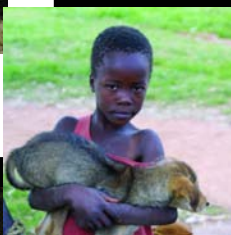
Here in the Serengeti National Park, however, the story is very different. In recent years an explosive growth in the number of domestic dogs has led to frequent outbreaks of rabies, distemper and parvovirus.

“frequent outbreaks of rabies, distemper and parvovirus”

The dogs, of course, are severely affected, and so too are many of the protected species in the park. Rabies appears to have wiped out local populations of the highly endangered African Wild Dog. And an outbreak of distemper in 1994 killed a third of the Park’s lions.

But it’s the effect on the local human population that is most devastating. It is estimated that rabies alone kills up to 25,000 people a year in Africa. And most of these are children.





“most of the dead are children”

Since 1997, the Afya Serengeti project has been working with local people to ensure widespread vaccination of the domestic dog. In only its second year of operation, the group had managed to reduce *by 92%* the number of people attending hospital with rabid dog bites.

“the work must go on”

But in order to succeed, the work must go on, year in, year out – and for this, the project relies on the goodwill of companies and individuals in the UK. Animal health company Intervet UK – who also make the pet vaccines used in this practice - have supported the project for many years with donations of free dog vaccine.

By purchasing the Nobivac® range of dog vaccines for your own pet, you indirectly help us to continue this vital work.

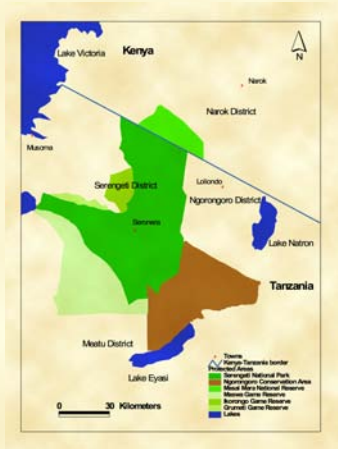


About Afya Serengeti

The ‘Afya Serengeti’ project – literally, ‘Health For the Serengeti’ – is led by Dr. Sarah Cleaveland of Edinburgh University. It began with a programme of vaccinating village dogs on the edge of the park to see whether this could have any impact on the wider incidence of disease.

Backed by donations from bodies such as Intervet and the WHO, Afya Serengeti has proved remarkably effective.

This promotion seeks to widen awareness of the project and increase the level of support that is available.



Sarah Cleaveland
University of Edinburgh
Project leader of Afya Serengeti, Tanzania



How can we do more?

You can also help to control rabies in domestic dogs, humans and wildlife by supporting the Alliance for Rabies Control



(ARC), an organisation dedicated to implementing rabies control programmes in Africa and Asia.

Alliance for Rabies Control, Easter Bush, Roslin, Midlothian, EH25 9RG, UK, or www.rabiescontrol.org

ARC is a charity registered in the United Kingdom (SC 037112).

More information

For further information please don't hesitate to contact your veterinary surgeon or visit our website



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