

Compendium of Animal Rabies Control and Prevention Report September 26-27, 2008

The Compendium of Animal Rabies Control and Prevention serves as the national recommendations and guidelines for state and local public health departments, animal control agencies, veterinarians, and other groups involved in rabies prevention. These recommendations are updated annually to reflect current scientific information and address various rabies prevention challenges and issues. The compendium committee is comprised of seven state public health veterinarians and multiple expert consultants from various agencies. The rabies compendium is endorsed by key national stakeholders including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the American Veterinary Medical Association, the Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists, the National Animal Control Association, the American Public Health Association, the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials, and the Association of Public Health Laboratories.

The Rabies Compendium committee met in September 2008 to discuss several important rabies control and prevention issues and to revise the Rabies Compendium. Important topics that were discussed included the human rabies vaccine supply shortage concerns, the revision of the ACIP Human Rabies Prevention Recommendations, methods to enhance public and professional rabies prevention awareness and education, ongoing concerns of foreign dog rabies importation, a case of canine rabies imported from Iraq, public health concerns regarding a proposal to conduct a trial in cats and dogs using a raccoon poxvirus vectored rabies vaccine, rabies vaccination exemptions, and development of a table listing components of the licensed animal rabies vaccines.

The 2009 Rabies Compendium will be available on the NASPHV website and will also be published in the CDC MMWR and the Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association.