

## Don't Let Rabies Do a Number on You and Your Patients

The second annual *World Rabies Day*, on September 28, 2008, will raise awareness about rabies – the deadly effects of the disease and the importance of prevention, including vaccination. Consider the following statistics and the impact rabies can have locally and globally, in humans and in animals.

### Rabies by the Numbers:

**55,000**

Approximate number of people who die every year from rabies around the world.<sup>1</sup>

**6,943**

Number of cases of rabies reported in the U.S. in 2006 (including three humans).<sup>2</sup>

### Rabies in Animals:

**79**

Number of cases reported in dogs in the United States in 2006.<sup>2</sup>

**318**

Number of cases reported in cats in the United States in 2006.<sup>2</sup>

**92**

Percent of reported cases of rabies in 2006 that were in wild animals.<sup>2</sup>

**6**

Number of months an unvaccinated cat or dog will be quarantined if bitten by an animal suspected of having rabies (if not immediately euthanized).<sup>3</sup>

### Rabies Prevention:

**25**

Number of years IMRAB<sup>®</sup> has been available to help prevent rabies.<sup>4</sup>

**More than 400,000,000**

Number of doses of IMRAB produced worldwide.<sup>4</sup>

**10**

Number of years PUREVAX<sup>®</sup> Feline Rabies has been helping prevent rabies.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>World Health Organization. Human and animal rabies. Available at: <http://www.who.int/rabies/en/>. Accessed July 16, 2008.

<sup>2</sup>Blanton JD, Hanlon CA, et al. Rabies surveillance in the United States during 2006. *JAVMA* 2007; 231(4):540-556.

<sup>3</sup>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Rabies questions and answers. Available at: <http://www.cdc.gov/rabies/qanda/general.html>. Accessed June 20, 2008.

<sup>4</sup>Data on File at Merial.