



Welcome to the Rabies Challenge Fund.

The Rabies Challenge Fund Charitable Trust will determine the duration of immunity conveyed by rabies vaccines. The goal is to extend the required interval for rabies boosters to 5 and then to 7 years. This project depends primarily upon grassroots gifts for funding the costs of conducting the requisite vaccine trials. Our contributions to date have come mostly from kennel clubs and private individuals. The Rabies Challenge Fund Charitable Trust is a federally registered 501(c)(3) charitable organization [Fed. EIN # 84-6390682].

Essential Fundraising Efforts Continue ...

The research began in November 2007 under the direction of Dr. Ronald Schultz and The University of Wisconsin Foundation and is now in year three. We have raised the required funds needed for the first three years of the study and we now seek [donations](#) to fund year four. Continuing to raise the funds is essential so the project can continue.

With Your Help...

The Rabies Challenge Fund needs to raise a total of \$1.25 million to complete the 5 and 7 year challenge studies. With your help for year four, we are another year closer to making this goal a reality!

Did You Know?

The RCF study will also generate data to establish the level of immunity (also called a titer) in a dog's blood that provides protection against rabies virus. This is important because at present we have to rely upon information known about the protective rabies titer for people, which is then applied to dogs and other mammals. Once the RCF has established the protective rabies titer, it should provide a scientific basis to avoid unnecessary rabies booster vaccination.

Making a Difference

Successful efforts by the Rabies Challenge Fund have led to changing the state rabies laws/municipal ordinances to the 3-year national standard in Cheyenne, Wyoming; Wichita, Kansas; Waco, Killeen and Bell County, Texas; and the states of Alabama, Arkansas, Maine Rhode Island and West Virginia.

About the RCF Study

This vaccine research project to address the duration of immunity conveyed by rabies vaccine is being performed by Dr. Ronald Schultz, Chairman of Pathobiology at the University of Wisconsin School of Veterinary Medicine. If the Rabies Challenge Fund succeeds in raising funds to complete both the 5 and 7 year challenge studies, the second phase of the project will finance a study of the adjuvants used in veterinary vaccines, and establish a federal adverse reaction reporting system for rabies and other vaccines.

An All Volunteer Effort

The University of Wisconsin has donated all of the necessary overhead costs for these studies which normally amount to 48% of the direct research costs. Furthermore, Dr. Ron Schultz, the Principal Investigator, has volunteered his time in conducting the research. Dr. W. Jean Dodds and her staff at Hemopet are also donating their efforts, as is Founder Kris Christine. The only monies used from the pre-grant funds were IRS fees. All other monies [donated](#) to The Rabies Challenge Fund Charitable Trust go directly to funding these studies.