



WORLD RABIES DAY 2026

STATE LEVEL OBSERVANCE OF & Dissemination of IBCM Project



Shri K. Muraleedharan
Hon'ble Minister for Health &
Family Welfare



Adv. Bindu Krishna
Hon'ble Minister for Animal
Husbandry & Dairy Development



K. M. Shaji
Minister for Local Self-Governments,
Government of Kerala



Shri V. Muraleedharan
Hon'ble MLA, Kazhakoottam



Prof. (Dr.) Mohanan Kunnummal
Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, KUHS



30 .09.2026



9:00 AM – 4:00 PM



**School of Public Health ,
Medical College Campus,
Thiruvananthapuram**

“ STRONGER TOGETHER ” : One Health, One Commitment - Towards a Rabies-Free Kerala

ABOUT THE WORKSHOP

The theme of World Rabies Day 2026 – “Stronger Together” reflects a simple but powerful truth: rabies cannot be ended by any one sector working alone. It calls for the collective strength of Health, Animal Husbandry and Local Self Government, working alongside academic institutions, communities and non-governmental organisations. By bringing together our expertise, resources, surveillance systems and community action, we can transform fragmented efforts into a coordinated One Health response.

The School of Public Health, Kerala University of Health Sciences (KUHS), in collaboration with the Directorates of Medical Education, Health Services, Animal Husbandry and Local Self Government, Mission Rabies, Compassion for Animal Welfare Association (CAWA) and the University of Glasgow, implemented a WHO–TDR-funded project on Integrated Bite Case Management (IBCM) as part of a One Health approach to rabies prevention at the primary health-care level. The project is a true reflection of the spirit of “Stronger Together”, demonstrating the value of linking human and animal surveillance and response. IBCM strengthened understanding of rabies risk, supported the rational use of vaccines and facilitated targeted ring vaccination of dogs in rabies-suspect areas. On this World Rabies Day, we share key findings and experiences from this collaborative initiative as a reminder of what can be achieved when we work together.

We warmly invite you to join us on World Rabies Day 2026 as we bring together the commitment and collective strength of Kerala’s health, animal health and local governance sectors. Let us share the lessons from IBCM, reaffirm our partnerships and explore how we can strengthen coordinated One Health action across the state. Let us come together, work together and move forward together towards our shared goal of ending rabies by 2030.

Dr. Sharmila Mary Joseph, IAS
Principal Secretary, Health & Family Welfare Department

Dr. Renu Raj, IAS
State Mission Director, Aranyakeralam

Dr. V. Meenakshi
Director of Health Services

Dr. K. V. Viswanathan
Director, Medical Education Department

Smt. Sheeba George, IAS
Secretary, Animal Husbandry & Dairy Development Department

Dr. K. Sindhu
Director of Animal Husbandry

Smt. T. V. Anupama, IAS
Secretary, Local Self Government Department

Smt. Divya S. Iyer, IAS
Principal Director, Local Self Government Department

Dr. C. P. Vijayan
Pro Vice-Chancellor, KUHS

Prof. (Dr.) Gopakumar S
Registrar, KUHS

Dr Thomas Mathew
Professor, School of Public Health, KUHS

PROGRAMME SCHEDULE

Time	Topic	Speaker
8:30- 9:00 am	Registration	
9:00- 9:30 am	Stronger Together: The Journey Towards Rabies Elimination in SEAR Challenges, Lessons from Bhutan and the Way Forward	Dr. Aya Yajima Regional Advisor & Dr Katrin Bote Technical Officer Neglected Tropical Disease Control , Department of Communicable Diseases, WHO South East Asia Region .
9:30 -10:00 am	Getting closer to ending human rabies deaths: The Kerala story	Dr. Harikumar S. State Program Officer National Rabies Control Program Assistant Director, Directorate of Health Services, Kerala Co-investigator IBCM Project
10:00- 10:30 am	Stronger Together: The evolving role of Animal Husbandry in a One Health Framework	Dr. Lekshmy M. A. Assistant Director Directorate of Animal Husbandry. Kerala
10:30 -11:00	Tea Break	
11:00 -11:30	Stronger Together: Lessons from the IBCM project and prospects of Scaling up.	Dr. Zinia T. Nujum Professor and Head Department of Community Medicine Government Medical College, Kollam Principal Investigator: IBCM Project
11:30- 12:30	Inauguration and Distribution of prizes to winners of the student competition on Breast Feeding Champion	
12: 30 -1:00	The IBCM experiences from across the globe	Dr. Katie Hampson, Professor of Disease Ecology and Public Health, School of Biodiversity One Health and Veterinary Medicine, University of Glasgow, UK Global Collaborator and CoPI IBCM Project

1:00 -1:30	Role of local body in unowned dog management	Dr Sreerag Jayan KS Veterinary surgeon Thiruvananthapuram Municipal Corporation
1:30 -2:00	LUNCH	
2:00 – 2:30 pm	IBCM Effectiveness of the Investigations and Response	Dr. Mufeeda Beegum , Project manager Kerala, Mission Rabies, India
2:30 - 3:00	Results of Community Survey	Dr. Dhanya R , Assistant Professor, Department of Public Health Dentistry, PMS College of Dental Science and Research
3:00 - 3:30	IBCM Challenges and Solutions	Smt. Lily Rose Jose , Biostatistician Project Technical Support III, Rabies Project, GMC Kollam
3:30- 4:00	Immunogenicity of 3 doses vs 4 doses of IDRV	Dr. Aparna Prakash Project Research Scientist, Rabies Project, GMC Kollam
4:00 pm	Vote of Thanks	Dr. Thomas Mathew Professor, School of Public Health , KUHS

Panel of Experts

Dr. Thomas Mathew	Professor, School of Public Health , KUHS
Dr. Suma T.K	Emeritus Scientist ICMR
Dr. Rajamohanan K	Emeritus Professor, School of Public Health
Dr. Anish. T. S	Associate Professor, School of Public Health
Dr. Reeta . K.P	Additional Director (Public Health)
Dr. Sindhu (AH)	Director of Animal Husbandry
Dr. Sanjay D	Joint Director Department of Animal Husbandry
Dr. Manoj Johnson	Senior Veterinary Surgeon
Mr. Anilkumar N V	SWM expert LSGD WM secretariat

(Registration free, but mandatory, Lunch provided, no TA / DA)

Scan or Click To Register

<https://kuhs.medconedge.com/>



For any queries Please contact

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