

**OVERVIEW: WHO IS GARC AND WHAT IS THEIR RELATIONSHIP TO ANIMAL POPULATION MANAGEMENT?**

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The Global Alliance For Rabies Control (GARC) is an international not-for-profit non-governmental organization. With offices in North America, Europe, and Asia, GARC's mission is the prevention and control of rabies among humans, domestic animals, and wildlife in a holistic One Health context. The four primary pillars that all GARC staff utilizes to focus its activities include renewed advocacy, improved education, evidence-based policy development, and applied research. From the standpoint of animal population management, each of these areas has a relevant role related to the promulgation of concepts and activities to minimize the global burden of disease using accepted best practices. For example, World Rabies Day is the singular concentration during September of each year that focuses upon events related to both human and animal health, not the least of which focuses upon proper veterinary care, including consideration of spay/neuter programs. Concerning continuing education, GARC supports web-based applications, newsletters, social media, presentations at local and international conferences, and peer-reviewed publications, that tend to highlight such animal welfare concerns as related to rabies mitigation. Regarding policy, GARC collaborates with its partner organizations on the promotion of acceptable euthanasia practices, and to diminish the use of indiscriminate mass culling in the name of disease control. Lastly, one area of priority research is the development of a dual immunocontraceptive vaccine, that could be used in the global prevention of human rabies cases by the elimination of canine rabies via mass dog vaccination programs. Clearly, each of these GARC pillars has a critical relationship related in part to relevant safe, efficacious, cost-effective, humane sustainable methods in achieving stable healthy animal populations, particularly in developing countries, where the public health, agricultural, and wildlife conservation needs are the greatest.