

# Peer-review of monograph of K. N. Gruzdev, A. Ye. Metlin "Animal Rabies"

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## Рецензия на монографию К. Н. Груздева, А. Е. Метлина «Бешенство животных» Владимир: ФГБУ «ВНИИЗЖ», 2019. 394 с.: ил. ISBN 978-5-900026-73-2

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The Monograph "Animal rabies" is devoted to a challenging issue of continued rabies cases which even in the XXI century raises concern of the WTO, OIE and FAO.

Rabies is one of the oldest and dangerous diseases of animals and humans. According to the WTO assessment it is among five zoonoses posing the greatest economic damage and constant threat for the life of humans and animals. Rabies is included in the OIE list of notifiable diseases.

One million of different animal species die of rabies each year. 110 countries of the world report a complicated rabies situation. Animal rabies especially in wild carnivores is one of the most important international criteria (WTO, FAO and OIE) for assessing biological and ecological safety of the human environment.

Analysis of the data characterizing rabies epidemic situation in the Russian Federation 1991–2019 demonstrates that it remains complicated despite measures taken. Rabies natural foci have become more active and the number of cases in wild carnivores has increased. Domestic carnivores, cats and dogs, have become more involved in the epidemic process, which makes specific prevention more relevant.

The analytical and own investigations of the authors are aimed at studying rabies epidemic data: rabies spread in the Russian Federation and neighboring countries, epidemic monitoring data, risk assessment in case of rabies occurrence in animals, rabies manifestations in different animal species. A large section is devoted to the rabies diagnosis: developed schemes and methods of brain sampling, safety measures during handling the rabies virus contaminated material are presented. Conventional methods as well as methods of laboratory diagnosis using fluorescence test, different variants of enzyme-immunoassay, polymerase chain reaction, latex agglutination test, immunochromatographic analysis, rabies virus isolation in

cell culture, and rabies virus detection in saliva, developed and improved by the authors, are described.

A comprehensive review and results of the investigations of the rabies virus field isolates and vaccine strains using nucleotide sequencing and phylogenetic analysis performed by the authors are presented.

Section "Rabies prevention and control measures" revealing the concept of rabies prevention in carnivores in the natural environment is important when it comes to practical use. Experience in oral vaccination against rabies in the neighboring countries is comprehensively analyzed and vaccines produced in different countries are characterized.

Publication of the monograph "Animal rabies" by K. N. Gruzdev and A. Ye. Metlin was a significant event contributing to understanding rabies spread, diagnosis, and prevention. When performing analytical studies of the literary sources and own experience the authors, not without a reason, raise a question of the necessity of intergovernmental and interregional interaction between veterinary services for control of such zoonosis as rabies.

The reviewed monograph – is a tangible contribution of Russia to the achievement of the goal of rabies eradication in humans all over the world which was initiated by the WTO, OIE, FAO, GARC and outlined in the new programmes (2015) for solving fundamental and veterinary and epidemiological applied tasks aimed at the infection surveillance and control.

The monograph contains a great many of own scientific, fundamental and applied data, analytical generalizations and conclusions. The book has a proper design and is well illustrated. We consider that it will be useful for specialists in the field of veterinary as well as sanitary and epidemiological surveillance, researchers, students of different levels – post-graduate students, advanced training course participants as well as specialists dealing with infectious pathology and epidemiology.