**CONTEXT**

- The World Health Organization (WHO) recommends vaccination as part of the post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) for all people exposed to the virus. The burden of disease is highest in Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia with the majority of deaths occurring in children younger than 15 years of age.

- The forecast through UNICEF, which is pooling demand from a number of low and middle income countries, is volatile. Much of this demand is confirmed through countries’ financial commitments made to UNICEF.

- Support for Rabies Vaccine for post-exposure prophylactic use is currently being considered by Gavi, the vaccine alliance, as part of its Vaccine Investment Strategy (VIS) with a start planned by 2025.

- Rabies Vaccine prices offered to UNICEF have been relatively high considering the income level of the countries procuring this vaccine through UNICEF. UNICEF therefore urges suppliers to work towards availing access to quality assured Rabies Vaccine at sustainable prices.

**SUPPLY**

![Procured Quantity (doses) – Rabies Vaccine](https://www.unicef.org/supply/)

**ISSUES & CHALLENGES**

- Lack of visibility into long term demand through UNICEF.
- High prices offered by manufacturers.
- No or limited donor support available to fund countries’ vaccine costs

**LOOKING AHEAD**

- UNICEF to continuously pursue information on countries’ vaccine requirements and work with countries with the aim of enhancing demand forecast accuracy to enable improved and longer-term forecasts communicated to the industry.

- The UNICEF tender aiming at establishing access to supply of Rabies vaccine during 2024 and beyond is still in the evaluation process.

- Potential access to donor funding would play a major role in shaping the demand market and increasing access for all closing the equity gap.