

Supplementary Table 6. Characteristics of included studies

Characteristics	Overall (142)	Humans (7)	Dogs (64)	Other animals (71)
Year of publication; range	1966-2019	1990-2018	1987-2019	1966-2019
Period of inclusion of participants; range	1975-2018	1985-2016	1975-2018	1985-2017
Study Design				
Cohort (Baseline data)	1 (0.7)	1 (14.3)		
Community outbreak	5 (3.5)		4 (6.3)	1 (1.4)
Cross sectional	135 (95.1)	6 (85.7)	60 (92.7)	70 (98.6)
Hospital outbreak	1 (0.7)			
Sampling				
Non probabilistic	122 (85.9)	6 (85.7)	54 (84.4)	62 (87.3)
Probabilistic	20 (14.1)	1 (14.3)	10 (15.6)	9 (12.7)
Number of sites				
Monocenter	58 (40.9)	3 (42.9)	31 (48.4)	24 (33.8)
Multicenter	78 (54.9)	4 (57.1)	31 (48.4)	43 (60.6)
Nationally representative	4 (2.8)		1 (1.6)	3 (4.2)
Unclear/ Not reported	2 (1.4)		1 (1.6)	1 (1.4)
Timing of data collection				
Prospectively	86 (60.6)	5 (71.4)	37 (57.8)	44 (62.0)
Retroprospectively	9 (6.3)		4 (6.3)	5 (7.0)
Retrospectively	39 (27.5)	2 (28.6)	15 (23.4)	22 (31.0)
Unclear/ Not reported	8 (5.6)		8 (12.5)	
UNSD Region				
Central Africa	9 (6.3)	1 (14.3)	6 (9.4)	2 (2.8)
Eastern Africa	61 (43.0)	3 (42.9)	19 (29.7)	39 (54.9)
Northern Africa	3 (2.1)			3 (4.2)
Southern Africa	21 (14.8)		4 (6.3)	17 (23.9)
West Africa	48 (33.8)	3 (42.9)	35 (54.7)	10 (14.1)
Country				
Burkina faso	1 (0.7)			1 (1.4)
Cameroon	3 (2.1)	1 (14.3)	2 (3.1)	
Central African Republic	2 (1.4)		2 (3.1)	
Chad	2 (1.4)		2 (3.1)	
Democratic Republic of the Congo	2 (1.4)			2 (2.8)
Egypt	3 (2.1)			3 (4.2)
Ethiopia	17 (12.0)		5 (7.8)	12 (16.9)
Ghana	2 (1.4)		2 (3.1)	
Ivory Coast	1 (0.7)	1 (14.3)		
Kenya	9 (6.3)		4 (6.3)	5 (7.0)
Liberia	1 (0.7)		1 (1.6)	
Madagascar	9 (6.3)	1 (14.3)	1 (1.6)	7 (9.9)
Mali	1 (0.7)		1 (1.6)	
Mozambique	2 (1.4)			2 (2.8)
Namibia	12 (8.5)		2 (3.1)	10 (14.1)
Nigeria	42 (29.6)	2 (28.6)	31 (48.4)	9 (12.7)
South Africa	9 (6.3)		2 (3.1)	7 (9.9)
Tanzania	8 (5.6)		5 (7.8)	3 (4.2)
Uganda	1 (0.7)		1 (1.6)	
Zambia	10 (7.0)	1 (14.3)	2 (3.1)	7 (9.9)
Zimbabwe	5 (3.5)	1 (14.3)	1 (1.6)	3 (4.2)
%Male, Range	16-80.8	38-71.4	16-80.8	47-81
Age (years); Median [IQR]	30 [30-30]	NA	30 [30-30]	NA

Characteristics	Overall (142)	Humans (7)	Dogs (64)	Other animals (71)
Age range				
All ages	14 (9.9)	2 (28.6)	10 (15.6)	2 (2.8)
Children	2 (1.4)		2 (3.1)	
Unclear/Not reported	126 (88.7)	5 (71.4)	52 (81.3)	69 (97.2)
Recruitment setting				
Rural	18 (12.7)	1 (14.3)	10 (15.6)	7 (9.9)
Unclear/Not reported	61 (43.0)	4 (57.1)	19 (29.7)	38 (53.5)
Urban	35 (24.7)	1 (14.3)	13 (20.3)	21 (29.6)
Urban/rural	28 (19.7)	1 (14.3)	22 (34.4)	5 (7.0)
Setting				
Community-based	90 (63.4)	3 (42.9)	48 (75.0)	49 (69.0)
Hospital-based	6 (4.2)			
Hospital/community based	5 (3.5)	1 (14.3)		
Unclear/Not reported	41 (28.9)	3 (42.9)	16 (25.0)	22 (31.0)
Hospitalization				
Hospitalized	0 (0.0)			
Not applicable (if not in the hospital)	136 (95.8)		64 (100.0)	71 (100.0)
Unclear/Not reported	6 (4.2)	7 (100.0)		
Sample types				
Brain	82 (57.8)	2 (28.6)	36 (56.3)	44 (62.0)
Oral swabs	2 (1.4)			2 (2.8)
Saliva	1 (0.7)		1 (1.6)	
Saliva, Skin biopsy	2 (1.4)	2 (28.6)		
Serum	41 (28.9)	2 (28.6)	24 (37.5)	15 (21.1)
Skin biopsy, Brain, Cerebrospinal fluid	1 (0.7)	1 (14.3)		
Unclear/Not reported	13 (9.2)		3 (4.7)	10 (14.1)
Detection assay				
Classical RT-PCR	6 (4.2)	2 (28.6)	1 (1.6)	3 (4.2)
Complement fixation test	1 (0.7)			1 (1.4)
Direct ELISA	1 (0.7)			1 (1.4)
Direct fluorescent antibody test	82 (57.8)	3 (42.9)	32 (50.0)	47 (66.2)
Direct fluorescent antibody test; Rapid Immunodiagnostic Test	1 (0.7)		1 (1.6)	
Direct Rapid Immunohistochemistry Test	8 (5.6)		4 (6.3)	4 (5.6)
Haemagglutination-inhibition technique	1 (0.7)		1 (1.6)	
Indirect ELISA	16 (11.3)	1 (14.3)	12 (18.8)	3 (4.2)
Mouse inoculation test	2 (1.4)			2 (2.8)
Mouse inoculation test + Seller's staining test	2 (1.4)			2 (2.8)
Neutralization test	1 (0.7)			1 (1.4)
Rapid fluorescent focus inhibition test	15 (10.6)	1 (14.3)	9 (14.1)	5 (7.0)
Seller's staining test	6 (4.2)		4 (6.3)	2 (2.8)
Target detected				
Antibodies	33 (23.2)	2 (28.6)	22 (34.4)	9 (12.7)
Antigen	93 (65.5)	3 (42.9)	37 (57.8)	53 (74.7)
Negri bodies	8 (5.6)		4 (6.3)	4 (5.6)
RNA	6 (4.2)	2 (28.6)	1 (1.6)	3 (4.2)
Virus	2 (1.4)			2 (2.8)
Infection Status				
Current contact	109 (76.8)	5 (71.4)	42 (65.6)	62 (87.3)
Past contact	33 (23.2)	2 (28.6)	22 (34.4)	9 (12.7)
Order				
Artiodactyla	20 (14.1)			20 (28.2)
Carnivora	19 (13.4)			19 (26.8)
Chiroptera	13 (9.2)			13 (18.3)

Characteristics	Overall (142)	Humans (7)	Dogs (64)	Other animals (71)
Multiple animals	8 (5.6)			8 (11.3)
Perissodactyla	7 (4.9)			7 (9.9)
Primates	2 (1.4)			2 (2.8)
Rodentia	2 (1.4)			2 (2.8)
NA	71 (50.0)			
Species				
Dogs	64 (45.1)			
Humans	7 (4.9)			
Other animals	71 (50.0)			
Humans characteristics				
Apparently healthy subjects	2 (28.6)	2 (28.6)		
RABV suspected humans cases	5 (71.4)	5 (71.4)		
Dogs characteristics				
Dogs unspecified	20 (31.3)		20 (31.3)	
Owner dogs	19 (29.7)		19 (29.7)	
RABV suspected case Owner dogs	1 (1.6)		1 (1.6)	
RABV suspected case stray dogs	1 (1.6)		1 (1.6)	
RABV suspected case unspecified dogs	8 (9.4)		8 (9.4)	
Stray dogs	11 (17.2)		11 (17.2)	
Wild dogs	4 (6.3)		4 (6.3)	
Others animals species				
Bats	13 (18.3)			13 (18.3)
Bovines	5 (7.0)			5 (7.0)
Camels	1 (1.4)			1 (1.4)
Cats	7 (9.9)			7 (9.9)
Cattle	2 (2.8)			2 (2.8)
Cattles	2 (2.8)			2 (2.8)
Cows	1 (1.4)			1 (1.4)
Donkeys	3 (4.2)			3 (4.2)
Eland	1 (1.4)			1 (1.4)
Equine	2 (2.8)			2 (2.8)
Feline	2 (2.8)			2 (2.8)
Goats	2 (2.8)			2 (2.8)
Horse	2 (2.8)			2 (2.8)
Hyenas	3 (4.2)			3 (4.2)
Jackals	3 (4.2)			3 (4.2)
Kudu	1 (1.4)			1 (1.4)
Lemur	1 (1.4)			1 (1.4)
Mongoses	1 (1.4)			1 (1.4)
Monkeys	1 (1.4)			1 (1.4)
Multiple animals	8 (11.3)			8 (11.3)
Panthera leo	1 (1.4)			1 (1.4)
Pigs	1 (1.4)			1 (1.4)
Rats	1 (1.4)			1 (1.4)
Sheeps	2 (2.8)			2 (2.8)
Shoats	1 (1.4)			1 (1.4)
Squirrel	1 (1.4)			1 (1.4)
Wildebeest	1 (1.4)			1 (1.4)
Wolves	2 (2.8)			2 (2.8)
Risk of bias				
High risk of bias	1 (0.7)		1 (1.6)	
Low risk of bias	2 (1.4)	2 (28.6)		
Moderate risk of bias	139 (97.9)	5 (71.4)	63 (98.4)	71 (100.0)