Human Health Relies on Healthy Animals

Milk, Meat and Eggs Boost Childhood Development
Healthy animals allow farmers to deliver a safe supply of milk, meat and eggs to their families and communities. A recent study found children in east Africa who regularly ate livestock-sourced foods, like milk and meat, show stronger cognitive, physical and social development.

Healthy Pets Mean Healthy Pet Owners
The joy and companionship pets add to our homes is only possible when pets are healthy and thriving. Studies show that pet owners have lower blood pressure, cholesterol and allergy levels, and report fewer visits to the doctor each year.

Animal Vaccinations Save Lives
Nearly all human cases of rabies are due to dog bites and this preventable disease kills one person every ten minutes. Vaccinating animals against rabies could save 60,000 people per year.

Controlling Animal Disease Protects Our Health
Each year, zoonosis – diseases transmitted from animals to humans – sickens 1 in 3 people around the world. Keeping animals healthy controls zoonosis and safeguards our wellbeing.

To learn more about why animal health matters, or to sign up to the new monthly newsletter, visit animalhealthmatters.org
Why Does Animal Health Matter?

Animal health is an engine of growth for the world’s most vulnerable communities

The health of animals is utterly crucial for the 1 billion people across the world who are entirely dependent on livestock to live. Around 70% of income in the world’s poorest countries comes from livestock production.

Feeding a growing population relies on healthy animals

Everyday, we ask livestock farmers to provide us with the milk, meat and eggs that are so essential to our health and wellbeing. This job can only become more difficult as our population grows.

The global population is expected to rise from 7 billion to 9 billion by 2050 – it’s like adding the entire population of Africa to our world twice over – and our food supply needs to keep up.

Human lives and livelihoods across the world are dependent on healthy animals

The impact of disease can be catastrophic, impacting animal welfare, food supply and trade.

Over 12 years at the start of the millennium, six international incidents of animal disease caused economic losses of $US 60 billion – more than the entire gross domestic product of countries like Kenya, Tanzania, Ghana and Uganda.

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60% of the infectious diseases we face in our lives originate in animals – only by safeguarding their health can we protect our own.

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