

Current situation of Rabies in Egypt

by

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History

- Rabies virus was recognized in Egypt before 2300 B.C. and was described by Aristotle in ancient Greece.
- It has been characterized by many as one of the oldest and most feared diseases of both animals and man.



Incidence

cont.

- Dog bites are the causes for over 90% of all human post-exposure treatment in the Egypt.
- Treatment of human cases is mainly by locally produced goat neural tissue origin vaccine. And some times an importers human diploid cell vaccine used.

Incidence

cont.

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- There is annual occurrence of stray dogs or wild canines bites for human.
 - No laboratory confirmation for the suspected cases.
 - All the bitten individuals are subjected to prophylactic treatment against Rabies including Vaccination.

Control of stray dog population

- The dog population is estimated at more than 3 million.
- The ratio of stray dogs to owned dogs is estimated to be 15:1 . Accordingly, the control measures are aimed mostly to eliminate stray dogs.

Control of stray dog population cont.

- The Trap, neuter and release method was used in Egypt in a pilot phase with finance from WSPA.
- The current system for control of stray dog population is the elimination by poisoning with strychnine or by cartridge shooting.

Control of stray dog population cont.

- The limitation in the national budget hindered the expansion of Trap, neuter and release method.
- Elimination by strychnine or cartridge shooting creates many problems with animal welfare organizations.

Main problems raised by stray dogs

- Transmission of zoonotic diseases (i.e rabies).
- Road accidents.
- Noise and panic to people.

Control of Rabies

- Elimination of stray animals (dogs and cats)
- Solid waste management.
- Vaccination of owned dogs by Inactivated Rabies Tissue Culture Vaccine.

Rabies vaccine for animals

- Produced locally by Veterinary serum and vaccine research institute.
- The vaccine is used for protection of dogs, cats and farm animals against rabies.
- For dogs and cats :
 - One dose of 2ml is injected subcutaneously or intramuscularly at age of not less than 2 months
 - vaccination is repeated annually.



Source: Vaccine leaflet

Rabies vaccine for animals cont.

- For farm animals:
 - In case of prevention and control.
 - Cattle and buffalos 5 ml
 - Horses and donkeys 4 ml
 - Sheep and goat 2 ml



Source: Vaccine leaflet

Rabies vaccine for animals cont.

- In case of bite exposure, the previously mentioned vaccine doses are injected weekly for three successive weeks. After a period of one week rest, two other doses are given at weekly intervals.
- In case of prevention and control, animals clinically ill or those weakened should not be vaccinated.



Thank you