





Rabies Control Strategy in Indonesia

Dr. Fadjar Sumping Tjatur Rasa and Pebi Purwo Suseno
Directorate of Animal Health, Directorate General of Livestock and Animal Health Services,
Ministry of Agriculture, Indonesia

SUMMARY

Rabies is endemic in 26 out of 34 provinces in Indonesia. Eight provinces and several districts, including some islands are declared free from rabies in Indonesia. In the last two decades, there are some incursion of rabies into a free area, namely Bali Island (2008), Nias Island (2010), and Sumbawa Island (2019). Some islands also have been declared free from rabies following control and surveillance program.

In line with the global commitment to achieve elimination of dog mediated human rabies by 2030, Indonesia has developed the One Health Roadmap for National Rabies Elimination by 2030. This document focus on several national strategies involving all ministries and institution related to rabies control in Indonesia. These strategies including rabies elimination in dog, rabies prevention in human, strengthening rabies surveillance on humans and animals, awareness raising, strengthening national and local regulation, implementation of operational research, strengthening multi-sectoral coordination and partnership, and resources mobilization.

Following the development of One Health Roadmap for National Rabies Elimination by 2030, Ministry of Agriculture also develop a specific document for dog rabies elimination called the Masterplan for rabies eradication in Indonesia by 2030. This document consists of general strategies that cover integrated bite cases management (IBCM); information, education, communication (IEC); regulation; and community involvement/engagement. Additionally, the masterplan describes in details the following technical strategies including vaccination, surveillance and epidemiological analysis, diagnostic evaluation, rapid response and management of suspect animal, movement control, and dog population management (DPM).

Based on field observations and experiences, several challenges in the implementation of rabies control strategies in Indonesia are high population of stray (unowned and roaming) dogs, high turnover of dog population, complexity in implementing mass vaccination of dogs with at least 70% coverage, the socio-cultural situation, limited resources in some area, implementation of regulation, cold chain management and distribution of vaccines to remote areas, and awareness on rabies and community engagement is still limited in some area. It was also recorded that there are some lesson learned in the implementation of the program, such as regulation and policy development is essential to support program; establishment of rabies coordination team (TIKOR) at the central, provincial and district levels is important; partnership with other stakeholder is crucial to expedite the control of rabies achieve elimination of dog mediated human rabies; dog population management and dog registration is important to support the vaccination campaign and rabies elimination; IBCM is powerful strategies to detect cases and also to prevent cases in human and further spread of rabies.







Rabies Control Strategy in Thailand

Dr. Weerapong Thanapongtharm

Acting for Senior Expert on Zoonotic Control,

Bureau of Disease Control and Veterinary Services,

Department of Livestock Development, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Thailand

SUMMARY

A trend of human and animal rabies in Thailand for the past 3 decades has been gradually decreasing. There were more than 4,000 cases of animals affected by rabies and almost 100 human died from rabies in 1993, reducing to 375 cases of animal rabies and 3 human died from rabies in 2019. The maps showed that animal rabies were distributed throughout the country for the past 20-30 years, where the central plain was highly prevalent. Presently, the distribution areas were restricted only in the northeast and the south. The characteristics of animal rabies showed that dogs (85-90%) were mostly affected by rabies, followed by cattle (6-8%), cats (3-5%), and others (1-2%).

A present rabies control strategic plan (2017-2020) is composed of 8 strategies namely; I. Surveillance, prevention and control, II. Management of animal shelters, III. Driving rabies activities in the local areas, IV. Surveillance, prevention and control of rabies in human, V. Public relation, VI. Integration and management of data related to rabies, VII. Monitoring and evaluation, and VIII. Development of innovations and technological transfer. It has been driven by a national committee chaired by Her Royal Highness Princess Chulabhon Krom Phra Sriavangavadhana, which the strategies have been conducted by cooperation among 6 agencies including 1.Department of Livestock Development, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, 2.Kasetsart University, 3.Department of Local Administration, Ministry of Interior, 4. Department of Disease Control, Ministry of Public Health, 5. Public Relations Department, Office of the Prime Minister, and 6. Prime Minister Office.

It can be concluded that a multi-agency cooperation would be the best way to deal with rabies transmission in the country, leading to rabies control and eradication ultimately.







Rabies Control Strategy in Myanmar

Prof. Dr. Tin Ngwe President of Myanmar Veterinary Association (MVA)

SUMMARY

Myanmar is one of the countries of endemic human rabies with reference of WHO. Animal Health and Livestock Law has been already developed since 1991, followed by the Law amending Animal Health and Livestock Law developed in 2010. The latest one of Animal Health and Development Law was enacted by the Parliament in 2020 so law enforcement for control of zoonotic disease becomes stronger. Yangon City Development Committee Law by Yangon Region Hluttaw developed in 2018 that shall capture, detain and destroy if the animals are dangerous to human.

About 200 veterinary graduates are annually produced by UVS in 2014 to 2019. About 1000 vets are employed at LBVD in 2012 to 2019.

MVA received World Veterinary Award 201. Public awareness is through the conferences, workshops, Panel discussions, seminars and through Media. Some of veterinarians received the National Literary award and other awards regarding zoonotic disease and rabies written in Myanmar Language.

Number of dogs in the whole country is over 7 million. Importation and distribution of Rabies vaccine for animal use become increased annually. The LBVD received 200,000 doses of ARV in each year of 2019 and 2020 while (30) millions in Myanmar kyat allocated from union budget for rabies. Totally over 100,000 doses have been vaccinated in 2019 by LBVD Rabies vaccination campaign.

Numbers of life membership of MVA is 884 and in term-membership is 302 totaling 1186 membership in 2019-2021 term. About 25% of Veterinarians are MVA membership. Annual Meeting of MVA was held in 2019 which deals panel discussion and paper reading sessions including clinical reports.