Surveillance of Rabies in Wild Animals

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Rabies in Wild and Domestic Animals in the U.S., 1955-2011







Rabies Surveillance in the U.S.

- Human rabies uncommon (1 to 4 cases per year); ~20,000 to 40,000 human exposures per year
- Dog rabies transmission eliminated
- Wildlife hosts include bats, raccoons, skunks, foxes, and mongoose (Puerto Rico)
- □ >95,000 animals submitted for diagnosis annually
- Approximately 6,500 to 8,000 animal rabies cases diagnosed per year, ~95% wildlife species



U.S. National Rabies Surveillance System

Lab-based system

- Focus on decentralized access to laboratories that can perform rabies diagnosis on animals involved in potential exposures
- > 126 laboratories performing DFA
- >25 USDA wildlife biologists performing DRIT



Rabies Surveillance in the U.S.



Reported cases of rabies involving bats, 2013



Distribution of Rabies in the U.S.



Oral Rabies Vaccination

- Delivering a vaccine-bait to a target species for consumption to create herd immunity
- Canada, Europe, and the United States are primary users
 - > 42,166,134 ORV doses in 2009
- Cost is a potential limiting factor (\$1.23/dose)
- Led to elimination of specific rabies variants at the landscape scale





North American Rabies Management Plan International Collaboration and Coordination





Ferret Badger Rabies in Taiwan

- Assisted in investigation 2012
- Previously no rabies surveillance (considered rabies free)
- Retrospective analysis of samples indicated longstanding presence of circulating rabies virus
 - Phylogenetic analysis suggested host shift from canine rabies virus variant prior to elimination in 1950s





Bat Rabies in Guatemala and Peru

- First report and isolation of rabies virus from bats in Guatemala
- Documentation of human exposures to vampire bats in Peruvian amazon
- Identification of novel batassociated pathogens (influenza A, bartonella spp., polyoma virus, microfilariae)





Haiti Animal Rabies Surveillance Program (HARSP)

- Collaboration between CDC, MSPP, MARNDR, HSI, and CVM
- Problem
 - Bite injuries
 - Human rabies deaths
- Intervention
 - Laboratory Capacity
 - Trained Surveillance Workforce
 - Humane & Safe Methods
- Goal
 - Healthy Animals, Healthy People, Healthy Haiti



Haiti Animal Rabies Surveillance Program (HARSP) Overview

□ 10 HARSP Officers in 3 Departments

- □ Euthanized >50 suspect rabid dogs
 - Prevented inhumane deaths
 - Prevented further human exposures
- Quarantined more than 300 rabies suspect dogs
- Prevented more than 350 human rabies exposures
- Saved potentially more than 100 human lives





HARSP: Increasing Recognition of Rabid Dogs





Wild Animal Surveillance in Haiti

3 Ministry officials trained on mongoose and bat sampling methods

- > 9 mongoose captured in Jeremie, Haiti
- > 40 bats captured in Jeremie, Haiti
- > All samples collected were negative for rabies antibody

Provided equipment and supplies to continue for 1 year

CDC will continue to provide technical support



Expansion to Ethiopia and Vietnam

- Global health security initiative providing funding
- Replicating Haiti rabies surveillance program as a zoonotic disease platform





Questions?

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