How to improve quality of data for monitoring progress of rabies programmes?

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Presentation outline

- Country programs
- What is quality data?
- Why do we need quality data?
- Ways to ensure collection of quality data
- What data was collected in Nam projects
- Conclusion
Key points with regards to rabies programmes

- Main objective of dog vaccination should be geared towards elimination of dog mediated human rabies.

- Theoretical, a 70% of vaccination coverage in dogs (WHO, 2013) is enough to eliminate rabies.

- Mass vaccination of dogs is the most successful and sustainable method for control and possibly elimination of dog mediated human rabies (OIE, 2015)

- Planning informed by Rabies strategy document
- Prior programme implementation- Implementation plan formulation (Action plan- What, when and How)
- Identify implementable activities to achieve the objective (be realistic and achievable)
- Do a pre-campaign assessment, implement then post campaign do measure progress
Rabies programmes

- Data to be collected should be informed by what rabies activities will be undertaken
  - Capacity building (training of staffs)
  - Education and awareness (community meetings and school talks)
  - Mass dog vaccination campaigns
  - Stakeholder engagements (pre-identified)
Why do we need quality data?

For assessment
- To have an understanding of the epidemiological situation of Rabies in Namibia for the purpose of:
  - Planning rabies control activities (base line data)
  - Inform and convince decision makers
  - Identification and implementation opportunities
  - Improvements of current activities
  - Monitoring progress as changes are applied
- To have an understanding on the possible burdens to health sector- The cost of PEP
- Understanding the burden to victims from dog bites
- Help in understanding the target group when disseminating rabies messages

Planning for:
- Vaccine doses
- Number of vaccination centers
- Number of teams and compositions
- Transport
- Equipments and materials needed
What is quality data?

- **The data that is**,
  - Complete (no missing information)
  - Reliable
  - Timely (data collected and reported at the right time)
  - Easy to use (easy to analyse and interpret)
  - Well managed (checking, validation, storage)
  - Analyzed, interpreted and disseminated on time

Rabies Situation Namibia
2011-2017 – Dog Rabies

![Map showing Dog rabies cases and Human density in Namibia](image)
Ways to ensure collection of quality data

- Use a well structured data collection tool (form, questionnaire, gadgets etc)
- Training of data collectors/ interviewers
- Capacitate Laboratory to ensure availability of correct tests and personnel
- Ensure legislation is in place (notifiable disease) to enforce compulsory reporting by public, private vets etc.
- Use surveys to collect more data (KAP study)
- Rabies Investigation protocol in place
- Toll free centre where public can report (where possible)
- Central (National) data base available
What Data were collected during Namibia’s project

- Rabies surveillance data retrieved from the central animal disease database established at the Directorate of Veterinary Services, MAWF (Rabies trends in animals with georef)
- Human rabies surveillance data retrieved from the epidemiological database of the MOHSS (Rabies cases in human and dog bite cases)
- Evaluation of campaign efficiency (human cases, dog cases)
- Identify rabies strains circulating.
- A sero-survey study to establish the level of protection against rabies in the vaccinated dog population
- KAP study conducted with regards to Rabies
  - Dog population dynamics (age distribution)
  - Purpose of keeping dogs
  - Channel of information dissemination
  - Level of dog meat consumption
  - Use of rabies suspected dogs
- Human population census (national, regional, constituency, municipal)
- Information on Health facilities (hospitals, PHCC, Clinic)
- Information on number of schools/region/per constituency
- Record of number vaccinated dogs, missed dogs, sex, age, vaccination record
- Consistency with recording forms and must be clear
- Unified data collection tool (forms with ongoing update has to be collective)
- **Indicators of campaign progress**
  - Human rabies cases
  - Number of dog cases and other domestic animals
  - Total number of samples tested/sample positive
  - Number of stakeholders engagement
  - Number of school talks held
Measured data for monitoring progress of rabies programmes

**Vaccination coverage 2014-2017**

- Vaccination coverage
- Estimated census

**Dog samples tested for rabies in 2015-2018**

- Positive
- Negative
Measured data for monitoring progress of rabies programmes
Conclusion

- Not easy
- If not properly collected, there could be a greatly underestimation or overestimation which could negatively affect the implementation
- In the absence of data will not able to demonstrate that there is a problem
- if not used for the intended purpose then its just data.
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