

**ANTI-RABIES IMMUNIZATION OF STUDENTS ENTERING THE MEDICINE
VETERINARY COURSE OF THE UNIVERSIDADE FEDERAL DE GOIÁS (UFG), JATAÍ
CAMPUS, IN 2013**

*(CONSCIENTIZAÇÃO E IMUNIZAÇÃO ANTIRRÁBICA DOS ALUNOS INGRESSANTES EM 2013
NO CURSO DE MEDICINA VETERINÁRIA NA UNIVERSIDADE FEDERAL DE GOIÁS (UFG),
CAMPUS JATAÍ)*

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The pre-exposure prophylaxis of rabies should be given to people at risk of permanent exposure to rabies virus. Three doses are needed on days 0, 7 and 28 and serological control from the 14th day after the last dose. A booster dose should be applied if titer is less than 0.5 IU/mL, repeating the serological evaluation afterwards. The basic tool of the educational process is the participation of the society and media, which must necessarily involve institutional, intersectoral and multidisciplinary services. This study aimed to educate new students of Veterinary in the UFG, Campus Jataí, about the importance of this zoonosis both professionally and as public health matter, as well as to ensure that pre-exposure prophylaxis was performed early in the course protecting the students in the practical classes and internships. On the day of enrollment, the 60 enrolling students were given educational material containing general information about the importance of rabies and its prevention. An appointment for each student was also scheduled at the Health Center since a prescription is needed for the application of this vaccine. All along, it was noticeable that there is some misunderstanding about how important it is for professionals who work directly with animals to be vaccinated against rabies. Vaccination was carried out in 100% of the students and, while 83.4% (50/60) attended their first scheduled appointments to receive the 1st dose of the vaccine, 16.6% (10/60) did not show up and had to be rescheduled for another date. When contacted by phone, the main reason was they had forgotten the appointment. For the veterinarian, the awareness about zoonoses should start early in the academic life, as well as immunization. Therefore, establishing an educational program from the beginning of the course is very important to protect the professionals' health throughout their career.

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