

## **RABIES EPIDEMIOLOGICAL PROFILE ACCORDING TO POST-EXPOSURE CARE IN UBERLÂNDIA-MG**

*(PERFIL EPIDEMIOLÓGICO DO ATENDIMENTO ANTIRRÁBICO PÓS-EXPOSIÇÃO NA CIDADE DE UBERLÂNDIA-MG)*

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Rabies, a highly lethal viral zoonosis, is considered a serious public health problem in Brazil. In all cases of post-exposure anti-rabies treatment, suspected or confirmed human rabies cases are mandatorily and immediately reported to Information System for Compulsory Notifiable Diseases. This study aims to determine rabies epidemiological profile using the data recorded in Uberlândia, MG, in the first half of 2012, regarding the post-exposure anti-rabies care given to patients. Descriptive and quantitative approaches were made from data provided by the Zoonosis Division of Uberlândia. During the studied period, there were 1,065 notifications of anti-rabies care according to the Animal Rabies Control Program. The vast majority of cases (85.45%) involved injuries caused by animals of the canine species. Regarding the type of contact, 91.83% were classified as bites. The epidemiological follow-up showed that from the 833 observed animals, 77.43% were considered healthy at the end of the follow-up period while 16.33% disappeared and 6.24% died. In cases when animal monitoring failed, the reasons reported were that in 57.89% of cases the residence was closed or the animal had not been identified. Furthermore, in 38.95% of cases the patient did not report the address. The analyzed data showed that in Uberlândia, the profile of the animal attacker is within the national parameters, especially regarding the importance of the canine species in the epidemiology of rabies. Despite the large number of follow-ups, the 74 cases in which the patients did not know the address of the attacking dog causes concern. Data collected from records of anti-rabies care given the patients post-exposure are of great epidemiological relevance since they can be used as tools for control and prevention of rabies in human and animal populations.

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