



Apcricon 2010

N E W D E L H I



12th National Conference of Association for Prevention and Control of Rabies in India

CHAIRPERSONS

Dr. Deoki Nandan

Director, NIHF, New Delhi

Dr. G. Sampath

President, APCRI

CO-CHAIR PERSONS

Dr. Chandrakant. S. Pandav

Dr. D.K. Raut

Dr. NK Yadav

Dr. Madhu Jain

Dr. PK Sharma

ADVISORS

Dr R L Ichhpujani

Dr M K Sudarshan

Dr N.K. Arora, INCLN

Dr Veena Mittal

Dr S. Abdul Rahman

Dr Mala Chhabra

MEMBERS

Dr. Sumit Poddar

Dr. Bankim B. Patnaik

Dr. D.M. Satpathy

Dr. V. Sreenivas Rao

Dr. M.N. Siddiqui

Dr. Hemanth. S. Gohil

RECEPTION COMMITTEE

Prof.U.Datta, NIHF

Dr. A.K. Gupta

Dr. Rajnish kumar

Mr. J.P. Shivdasani, NIHF

PROGRAMME &

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Prof. J.K. Das, NIHF

Prof. S.V. Adhish, NIHF

Prof (Dr) Sara Varghese

Dr. Yogesh K.Kushwaha

Dr. Anoop Lal

SOUVENIR COMMITTEE

Dr. Sairu Philip

Prof. Neera Dhar, NIHF

Dr. Mohammed Asheel

JT. ORGANIZING SECRETARY

Dr. Sanjay Gupta, NIHF

Mob: 0 9818855357

sanjaygupta61@hotmail.com

ORGANIZING SECRETARY

Prof (Dr) Thomas Mathew

Secretary General, APCRI

Mob: 0 9447144230, 09446028080

thomasmathew08@gmail.com

Press release

Rabies is a disease where a person is aware of his impending death. The certainty of death and the uncertainty of its time are most hurting. Ironically, the person is tormented with thirst and fear of water at the same time. Rabies is not a new disease; it is neither emerging nor re-emerging. It is as old as our civilization. In this era of skyscrapers, computers mobile phones and nuclear power plants, it still continues to kill an estimated 55000 people globally. Rabies geographically encompasses all continents except Antarctica. Over 95% of the total human deaths due to rabies are contributed by Asia and Africa. It is estimated that about 20,000 people die of rabies in India every year. It is estimated that about 17.8 million animal bites occur annually in India. Dogs inflict more than 95% of these bites.

Though Rabies is a 100% percent fatal disease, it is 100% preventable also, by effective Post Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) for bite victim. But high cost and limited availability of vaccines were a major limitation in making available the vaccines to all bite victims in India. Recently, economical, safe and effective, intra dermal (ID) route of inoculation of anti-rabies vaccines was approved by regulatory authorities. This makes PEP cost effective and enables to provide wider coverage with available quantity of vaccines.

In the 11th Five Year Plan a pilot project on prevention and control of human rabies has been approved as a 'New Initiative' in January 2008. The project is being carried out in five cities viz., Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Delhi, Pune & Madurai with National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC), Delhi as the nodal agency for project implementation. The main objective of the project is to prevent human deaths due to rabies by improving the management of animal bite cases, enhancing awareness in general community regarding timely and appropriate post exposure treatment, strengthening diagnostic capabilities, establishing interface with animal husbandry department and strengthening surveillance.

Association for Prevention and Control of Rabies in India (APCRI) is a pioneer organization aimed at control of Rabies in India. This multidisciplinary organization (involving Medical professionals, veterinarians and people from NGOs) is the first of its kind targeting at prevention

Conference e-mail- apcricon2010@gmail.com

Visit our website www.apcri.org

and control of a single disease. Since its establishment in 1998, the organization has been in the fore front in the war against rabies in India. The association stood strong in its advocacy for cost effective PEP for bite victims, improving coverage of vaccines, promoting proper wound management and reducing the incidence of rabies in the country. Owing to the sustained efforts of this organization, cost effective Intra Dermal Route of Vaccine administration (IDRV) has been implemented by many states in India. For example, in Kerala, we were able to convince the State Government to make it available free of cost to all bite victims in the state, without any additional financial commitment to the state. Earlier in the state a bite victim had to spend up to 2000 Rs for a full course of vaccine.

We cannot fight this threat to human kind just by vaccination of bite victims. This requires coordinated efforts from various stake holders. For instance, the three major components of rabies control namely, 1. Stray dog control and Pet dog Licensing 2. Anti-Rabies Vaccination of animals and 3. PEP are dealt by three different sectors, that is Local Self Government, Animal Husbandry and Health respectively. It is high time that an effective intersectoral coordination is established between these sectors, so that Rabies may be eliminated from India by 2020.

The Government of India has reiterated its commitment towards Rabies Control by Introduction of National Program for Control of Rabies, which is now in its pilot phase. APCRI as an organization of experts in this field is committed to provide academic and administrative support for the same.

It is in this context, the 12th National Conference of APCRI is being held at Silver Oak Hall, India Habitat Centre, New Delhi on 3rd and 4th of July 2010 with the theme: 'Joining Hands for a Rabies Free India by 2020'.

We hope that the conference will serve as a platform, where experts from various parts of the country and various disciplines will share their experience and initiate an effective coordinated joint action for control of rabies in India.

We dream of a nation where none of its citizens will be left in a hospital cell waiting for his death due to Rabies . Let us join hands to make our nation Rabies free!

Jai Hind