

Title: AN OVERVIEW OF ANIMAL BIRTH CONTROL PROGRAMME
IN THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF CUTTACK, ODISHA

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Keywords ABC Programme, Stray dog

Abstract Dogs are the major source of transmission of Rabies. India has dog population of 28 million out of which 80% are stray dogs. Control of stray dog population is a priority in control of rabies. This study will throw a light on the ABC programme in the Municipal area of Cuttack City.

Original Article

AN OVERVIEW OF ANIMAL BIRTH CONTROL PROGRAMME IN THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF CUTTACK, ODISHA

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Abstract

- Introduction:** Dogs are the major source of transmission of Rabies. India has dog population of 28 million out of which 80% are stray dogs. Control of stray dog population is a priority in control of Rabies. This study will throw a light on the ABC programme in the Municipal area of Cuttack City.
- Objectives:**
1. To assess the ABC programme in the municipal corporation of Cuttack, Odisha.
 2. To find out the bottlenecks in carrying out the programme & suggest the remedial measures.
- Methology:** The study was conducted in the Municipal Corporation of Cuttack city of Odisha, during the month of Jan 2014 to March 2014. The data were collected by interviewing the NGO (Mahila Bikash Samiti, Andapur) staff & municipal staff and analysed in the Deptt. of Community Medicine, S.C.B Medical College, Cuttack, Odisha.
- Observations:** Since 2003 the programme had started in Cuttack Municipality and 22775 stray dogs had been sterilized. The Number of staff required is not adequate. The veterinary surgeon is posted on contractual basis and conducts the operation for only 10 days in a month. Although dog kennels are present but are inadequate, the building needs repair and the hygiene is not maintained. Only 25% of the required instruments are present and the sterilization of instruments is also not maintained. There is no timely release of funds. One vehicle out of the two is functional.
- Conclusion:** Proper monitoring, supervision, evaluation & sensitisation of the concerned staff regarding the program should be done at regular intervals.
- Key Words:** ABC programme, Stray dog

Introduction:

The situation of rabies in the animal population in the region is that the canine rabies continues to be the major public health problem. Due to lack of proper surveillance there is no clear information about the problem of rabies in the animal population. The existence of large unvaccinated and uncontrolled stray dog population, opposition to eliminate them and a lack of well planned dog population management and organised dog vaccination programme has lead to further compounding of problem more so in urban area¹. India has dog population of 28 million out of which 80% are stray dogs². DALY's due to rabies is more than due to

SARS and dengue fever³. In India one person is bitten by animal every 2 seconds and one person dies from rabies every 30 minutes⁴. An ABC project can help to control both, street dog populations as well as human / animal rabies when conducted efficiently⁵. Control of stray dog population is a priority in the control of rabies. This study will throw a light on the ABC programme in the Municipal area of Cuttack City.

Objectives:-

1. To assess the functioning of the ABC programme in the municipal corporation of Cuttack City, Odisha.
2. To find out the bottlenecks in carrying out the programme & suggest the remedial measures.

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Methodology :

The study was conducted in the Municipal Corporation of Cuttack City of Odisha, during the month of Jan 2014 to March 2014. The data was collected by interviewing the NGO (Mahila Bikash Samiti, Andapur) staff & municipal staff in a pre-designed & pre-tested schedule and records were analysed. The data thus obtained were analysed in the Deptt. of Community Medicine, S.C.B Medical College, Cuttack, Odisha.

Observation:

The ABC programme is conducted by the Cuttack municipal Corporation (CMC) through tender notification. The programme had started in the year 2004. Since then the same NGO named Mahila Bikash samiti, Andapur has been working till 2014. From 2004 to 2014 the number of dogs that had been sterilized was 22,775. All the NGO staff as per requirement for the ABC activity were present. The Vet. surgeon however was posted on contractual basis.

Table : I
Infrastructure & logistics

Sl. No.	Infrastructure & logistics	Required	Present	Functional	% Present
1.	Dog Kennel	75	43	43	57
2.	OT	1	1	1	100
3.	Dressing room	1	0	0	0
4.	Preparation Room	1	0	0	0
5.	Dog shelter house	1	0	0	0
6.	OT Table	4	1	1	25
7.	OT Light	4	1	1	25
8.	Instrument Set	4	1	1	25
9.	Vehicles	2	2	2	50

Out of 75 dog kennels required only 57% were present & functional, from the required 4 sets of instruments for sterilization operation only 25% were present & functional. Hence sterilization is not done properly. OT though is present & functional but the room is very small & not a closed room. There is no dressing & preparation room attached to the OT. Out of the required two vehicles only one was present and functional.

The fund for the ABC programme is received from various source like AWBI fund, DAH & VS Fund & the Cuttack Municipal Corporation (CMC).

The perception of the NGO staff regarding ABC programme was that there is no existing dog shelter house, no proper infrastructure as the building is in dilapidated condition & there is no timely release of funds.

The NGO staff suggested that dog shelter houses need to be constructed, existing building needs urgent repair and timely release of fund is required for proper functioning of ABC programme. The perception of veterinary surgeon regarding ABC programme was that the number of dogs sterilized was much below the required number, sterilization operation was done for only 10 days in a month and the number of kennels was inadequate. He also opined that the OT is not well equipped.

Veterinary surgeon suggested that the sterilization operation needs to be done on every working day to be at par with the growing dog population and more number of kennels is needed to be constructed. The existing kennel & other infrastructure needs repair. Kennel hygiene is to be maintained, OT has to be well equipped with adequate number of instruments.

Recommendation:

Proper internal monitoring of the programme is required. Supervision & evaluation should be done at regular interval by the external agencies. Sensitisation of the concerned staff regarding the program needs to be done at regular intervals.

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