Analysis on the present situation of human rabies epidemic in China

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Abstract | Objective To summarize and analyze human rabies epidemic situation in the last five years in China and to explore the possible factors causing the rising of epidemics to provide reference for the prevention and control of rabies in the future. Methods Collecting and analyzing data of rabies epidemics in the last five years in whole nation. Results Human rabies is continuing up going in the last five years in China with an increase of 44.65% in 1997 and 45.93% in 1999. Human rabies incidence was also seen from an increase from 0.013-4/100 000 in 1996 to 0.027/100 000 in 1999. The provinces of rabies increase were mainly located in south China. Among them, the Guangdong province reported 40 human cases in 1999 which increased 207.69% than the corresponding period in 1998. The cases in these high epidemic provinces took up 75% of the whole nation's cases. Number of reported rabies case was also rising. Conclusion As increasing number of dog raising in China not being injected with rabies vaccine and antirabies serum timely or full course after exposure, it strictly controlling the quality of rabies vaccine as well as lacking good cooperation in different official department on rabies control might serve as factors responsible for the recurrent increase of human rabies.

Key words: Rabies, Epidemiology, Prevention