

Thesis Title Factors Influencing the Acceptance of the
 Animal Rabies Vaccine by Dog Owners
 in Ratchaburi Province

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ABSTRACT

The objective of this survey research , which was based on the Health Service Utilization and the Health Belief Model, was to study the effects of socio - economic and psychological factors on the dog owners to take the animal rabies vaccination. The study was conducted on a section of population who were having dogs as their pets and were domicile of Ratchaburi Province. Out of a total of 32,288 cases a sample size of 395 cases was selected for the present survey research.

These were chosen through systematic random sampling procedures. Data collection methodology included interviews as well as questionnaires, which were conducted from 8th March to 24th April 1992. Data was analyzed with SPSS/PC+, yielding percentages, mean, standard deviation for descriptive data. The data is presented in the table form. Discriminant Analysis was performed in order to determine the behaviour of bringing dogs to take the animal rabies vaccination.

The result is summarized as the behaviour of bringing dogs to take the animal rabies vaccination, there were more than half of dog owners (59.7 %) who came to take the animal rabies vaccination for their every dog, more than one - fourth of all dog owners (28.4 %) did not take the animal rabies vaccination for all their dogs and there were only 11.9 % of dog owners who took the animal rabies vaccination for some of their dogs. The major reasons that the owners of the dogs bring their dogs for vaccination were fear of transmission of rabies as to themselves or others. The major reasons that the dog owners did not bring their dogs for vaccination were public health officials were not available to give vaccine to dogs. The factor that influenced them in bringing dogs to take the animal rabies vaccination was to receive suggestions pertaining to the rabies prevention from the public health officials. This was the factor of the majority of the respondents. The

other factors were satisfaction of the vaccination service, number of dogs, acknowledgement of the animal rabies vaccine, belief toward causes of rabies - transmission and prevention, perception of the vaccination cost, how to obtain dogs, susceptibility of rabies and perception of the animal rabies vaccination benefit. Perception severity, education of the dog owners, knowledge of rabies as obtained from various media, yearly income of family, members of the family, reasons to raise the dogs, all had no influence up on the behaviour of bringing dogs to take the animals rabies vaccination.

Recommendation :

In terms of the readjustment of the timing for the animal rabies vaccination service. The services should be available in the morning before 8.00 A.M. and in the evening after 5.00 P.M. It should be provided by a mobile service unit going door to door. Also, along with the vaccination the suggestion of rabies prevention should be given. There should be a trend on health education on rabies. It should be made popular by using different means of media. Door to door campaign should be done to make the service successful. The public health officials should have a special role on giving health education to people.