

Thesis Title Knowledge and Perception of Dog Owners
towards Practice of Dog Contraception

Name Khampee Pattanatanang

Degree Master of Primary Health Care Management

Thesis Supervisory Committee

Orapin Sinhadej,
M.D., M.P.H., Dr.P.H.

Pravit Choomkasien,
D.V.M., M.P.H., D.V.S.M., LLB.

Somsak Wongsawass
M.Sc. (Biostatistics)

Date of Graduation 25 May B.E. 2537 (1994).

ABSTRACT

A cross sectional survey was conducted by interviewing 200 dog owners at a small animal hospital in Bangkhen district, Bangkok, with the aim to identify socio-demographic factors, knowledge and perception of dog owners towards the practice of dog contraception from April 10, 1994 until April 30, 1994.

The result of this study revealed that there were associations between some of socio-demographic characteristics of dog owners and practice of dog contraception. The dogs' contraceptive practice varied by the owners age group which was highest among 44 years and older, the second was in the group of 25 to 44 and the least was in group of less than 25 years (i.e. 64.3%, 52.7% and 32.2% respectively.) Dog owners who lived in rental accommodations (58.9%) practiced dog contraception more than the owners who lived in houses (51.5%) and more than those who lived in buildings/ townhouses (33.4%). More than half of the dog owners had attained, a bachelor's degree education or higher but there was no association between education of dog owners and practice of dog contraception. However, level of knowledge of dog owners on dog contraception was associated with practice of dog contraception. It was seen that 45.5% of dog owners who had a low level of knowledge practiced dog contraception less than those who had a high level of knowledge on dog contraception. Perception of dog owners on dog contraception was also associated with the practice of dog contraception. About 23.0% of dog owners who had poor perception were less inclined to practice dog contraception (23.9%), while 31.5% of dog owners who had good perception practiced a higher rate of dog contraception (66.7%). It was seen that 48.0% of dog owners who practiced dog contraception used various methods like oral pills for dogs(2.1%), hormone injections (32.3%), spaying (51.0%), and castration (42.7%) for their dogs.

The results of this study concluded that age group, housing, knowledge, and perception of dog owners on dog contraception are some of the important factors in relations to planning birth control programs for dogs. These associated factors must be taken into consideration, especially in health educational programs for dog owners to prevent a rapid over population of dogs.