ANGOLA

I.) BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Angola covers 1,246,700 sq km and shares its borders with the Democratic Republic of Congo, the Republic of Congo, Namibia and Zambia. Angola’s population is estimated to be around 18.6 million (July 2013), with about 59 percent living in urban areas (2010). Its GDP per capita (PPP) amounts to 6,200 USD. However, 40.5 percent of the population lived below the poverty line in 2006. With a high income inequality it is ranked according to the Human Development Index of 2013 in 148th place, still amongst the countries with low human development.¹ ¹

In Southern Africa, 4 genotypes of the lyssavirus, which cause rabies, are endemic. The most common is Genotype 1 (Rabies virus, RABV). Others are Genotype 2 (Lagos bat virus, LBV), Genotype 3 (Mokola virus, MOKV) and Genotype 4 (Duvenhage virus, DUVV). Human infections are mostly due to the canine biotype of RABV.²

Rabies is a notifiable disease in Angola. However, it is not known whether the Laboratório Regional de Veterinária de Luanda, or any other laboratory carries out rabies diagnostics.⁴

II.) HUMAN RABIES EPIDEMIOLOGY

It is not clear whether the human rabies cases reported to the OIE are laboratory confirmed, or diagnosed on clinical grounds only. In 2010, Angola reported a total of 151 cases of rabies in humans³. For 2011 no data is available. However, newspaper reports indicate that there were 5 human rabies cases in Luanda’s Cazenga municipality between January to September 2012 alone⁵, and 44 known human rabies cases in the same time-period in the central province of Angola⁶. The same report speaks of an increase of cases compared to the previous year, 2011.

III.) RABIES VECTORS

The main vector for rabies in Angola is the domestic dog. In the first half of 2012, 5 dogs were reported to have died from rabies. As a response, 128 dogs were vaccinated. In 2011, a total of 30 dogs died of rabies and subsequently 3502 animals were vaccinated. For the same year the number of dogs that have received routine vaccination was 330,866.⁷

Rabies is wildlife is present, but there is no rabies surveillance of wildlife in Angola.

IV.) RABIES BIOLOGICS AVAILABILITY

No information is available to human rabies post-exposure prophylaxis in Angola. It is most likely available at least in the main hospital in Luanda.⁸
V.) OTHER

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