GAPS Between Current Availability of Anti-Rabies Sera & Estimated Treatment Needs

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Rabies

- Viral zoonotic disease which is fatal
- 100% preventable
- 55,000 human deaths annually
- Children are the most affected group
- 90% deaths occur in Asia & Africa
- Even though more than 10 million people received anti rabies post-exposure prophylaxis, fewer than 6% did receive RIG in Asia in 2005
Sri Lanka

- Population of 20.2 million
- Rabies is an endemic disease
- Dog is the main reservoir of transmission to humans
- 375,000 animal bites / year estimated
- 200,000 bite victims seek post-exposure therapy (PET)
Use of Rabies Immunoglobulin (RIG)

- Before 1995 – 10% of patients seeking PET administered RIG
- Many treatment failures
- 100-150 human rabies deaths reported
- After 1995 – Anti Rabies Equine Serum available up to Base hospital level
- Demand increased several fold
- 50,000 patients administered RIG – Category III exposure

- 1995: 151
- 1997: 152
- 1999: 135
- 2001: 113
- 2003: 99
- 2005: 83
- 2007: 64
- 2009: 74
- 2011: 97
- 2013: 55

Clinically diagnosed
Issue of RIG to Government Hospitals from Medical Supplies Division (1998-2006)

- ERIG 1000ml / 5ml
- HRIG 300IU/2ml
- HRIG 750IU/5ml
Cost of Anti Rabies Equine Serum – Ministry of Health

No: of vials ERI G 1000IU/ 5ml

Total Cost US $
Problems On Current Availability Of RIG

- Human rabies immunoglobulin unaffordable in rabies endemic countries
- ERIG – few manufacturers
- Not able to meet demand
- Comparatively cost increasing
- Frequent out of stock situation – peoples life at risk of rabies
Equine Rabies Anti Serum

- To avoid shortage – Manufacturers in India, China & Thailand
- Concerns regarding safety & efficacy of new anti rabies sera
- More suppliers producing good quality ERIG which is affordable to be encouraged
- Cost per vial to be standardized