

CARCON 2011



1st Annual National Conference of Consortium Against Rabies in association with Department of Community Medicine, Government Medical College and Hospital, Chandigarh

A Report

Venue: Hotel Park View, Chandigarh

Date: 7th May 2011

Organizing committee:

Chairperson : Dr. A.T.Kannan, President, Consortium Against Rabies
Organizing Chairperson: Dr N.K.Goel, Govt Med College & Hosp. Chandigarh
Secretary: Dr. Anurag Agarwal, Secretary, C.A.R.
Joint Organizing Secretary: Dr. Khan Amir Maroof, UCMS & GTB Hospital, Delhi
Treasurer: Dr.G.P.Kaushal, Treasurer, Consortium Against Rabies

About Chandigarh:

Chandigarh is a union territory of India that serves as the capital of two states, Punjab and Haryana. The name Chandigarh translates as "The Fort of Chandi". The name was coined from an ancient temple called Chandi Mandir, devoted to the Hindu Goddess Chandi, present in the city's vicinity. It is occasionally referred to as The City Beautiful.

Main objectives of the conference:

- Assemble experts and policy makers to share data and assess translation of research findings into policy recommendation.
- Provide a common platform for all the stake holders working towards control and elimination of rabies in India.

Inaugural programme:

The conference was officially inaugurated by **Professor Raj Bahadur, Director Principal, GMCH, Chandigarh** who was the chief guest of the function. He addressed the august gathering highlighting the significance of controlling Rabies and also appreciating Consortium Against Rabies for carrying out this work forward in an effective and meaningful manner.



Formal inauguration was done by lighting the lamp and invoking the divine blessings through a Maa Saraswati Bhajan sung beautifully and soulfully by the students of Govt. Med College & Hospital, Chandigarh.

The inaugural programme :

Welcome Address by Dr. Naveen Goel, Organizing
Chairperson, CARCON 2011

Address by Dr A.T Kannan, President,
Consortium Against Rabies

Address by Dr. Raj Bahadur, Director Principal as
Chief Guest

Vote of Thanks by Dr. Anurag Agarwal, Secretary,
Consortium Against Rabies



Session highlights of CARCON 2011

Session I:

Running a Rabies Clinic: practical aspects by Dr. Anurag Agarwal (General Secy, C.A.R.)

Chairpersons: .C S Gautam & Prof.Ram Singh, GMCH, Chandigarh.



One of the essential services to control Rabies is timely and proper management of animal bite cases. This can be achieved by a properly functioning Rabies Clinic in the hospital setting. Simple and effective ways of running a Rabies Clinic was discussed which was followed by intensive question answer session. This session set the scene for further sessions throughout the day.

Rabies: A neglected tropical disease by Dr. Khan Amir Maroof, UCMS & GTBH, Delhi

Chairpersons: Dr. Anita Gupta, UCMS & GTBH, Delhi and Dr Varsha Gupta, GMCH, Chandigarh

The neglect of Rabies stems from reasons more than one both at the local level and at the national level. This scientific presentation aimed to bring out the various aspects of neglect of this fatal disease and the strategies recommended by World Health Organization to focus on it. The various dimensions presented were an eye opener for the academicians attending the conference.



Current status of vaccines and their future perspectives by Dr. Jagdish Chander, Microbiology, GMCH, Chandigarh

Chairpersons: Prof. Amarjit Singh, GGSMC, Faridkot and Dr. Sonia Puri, GMCH, Chandigarh



Vaccines form the most important tool in our fight against Rabies. This scientific session highlighted the current status of vaccines while also taking into account the various strengths and weaknesses in the strategies as well as the future prospects of vaccination at the international research level.

Panel discussion: Identification and involvement of stake holders in Rabies Prevention and Control

Panelists: Prof. Surekha Kishore, GRRMC, Dehradun; Dr. Rajinder Singh, Infectious Disease Hospital, Delhi and Dr. Anita Gupta, UCMS & GTBH, Delhi

As Rabies prevention and control is a task which involves many aspects, there are many stakeholders which makes this task daunting. One of the key challenges is to identify and involve these stakeholders in order to achieve the common goal of Rabies free India. This panel discussion made an effort to discuss about the identification and ways in which they can be involved. The various stakeholders identified were medical practitioners, veterinarians, researchers, community, political support, media etc.



**Canine Rabies Control by Dr. M.S.Kamboj, Veterinary Surgeon, Chandigarh
Chairpersons: Dr. Bhupinder Gupta, GSMC, Banur & Dr. Sangeeta Girdhar, DMC
Ludhiana**



Rabies control and elimination is impossible without tackling the canine rabies. This scientific session gave insights into the various canine aspects of rabies and also the strategies for control of canine rabies in Indian scenario. This session made the understanding of rabies very comprehensive in tune with the other sessions.

Paper/Poster session:

Chair persons: Prof. Anurag Choudhary, DMC, Ludhiana and Dr. Dinesh Kumar, GMCH, Chandigarh.

Various scientific research papers/posters were presented at the conference. The best paper award was conferred on Dr. Gaurav, Senior Resident, Pediatrics, Maharshi Valmiki Hospital, Delhi who presented the research entitled: Safety, immunogenicity and feasibility of rabies postexposure prophylaxis by intradermal inoculation of PCECV at rural peripheral hospital in India

Snapshots of CARCON 2011



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