

UZBEKISTAN

I.) BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Uzbekistan covers 447,400 sq. km and shares its borders with Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan. Uzbekistan's population is estimated at around 28.9 million (2014), with about 36.2 percent living in urban areas (2011). Its GDP per capita (PPP) amounts to 3,800 USD (2013). However, 17 percent of the population lived below the poverty line in 2011. With a high income inequality it is ranked according to the Human Development Index of 2013 in 114th place, amongst the countries with medium human development.^{i ii}

Rabies is most likely enzootic in Uzbekistan. Similarly to its neighbouring countries, the most common lyssavirus present is probably Genotype 1 (Rabies virus, RABV), with human infections being mostly due to the its canine biotypeⁱⁱⁱ. Since there is limited bat rabies specific surveillance in place, no information to present bat lyssaviruses is available.

Human rabies is not a notifiable disease in Uzbekistan. Consequently, no official data is available on rabies incidences in humans.^{iv}

II.) HUMAN RABIES EPIDEMIOLOGY

There is no information available on human rabies cases in recent years in Uzbekistan. However, there are conflicting media reports about two children, who died of rabies at the beginning of 2014^{v,vi}. A recent study on the global burden of rabies estimates that annually 12 people die from rabies in Uzbekistan^{vii}.

III.) RABIES VECTORS

The main vector for rabies in Uzbekistan is the domestic dog. In 2007, according to the last report Uzbekistan submitted to the OIE World Animal Rabies Information System 891,212 dogs received routine rabies vaccinations. No data is available to confirmed dog rabies cases, and no cases of rabies in other domestic animals and wildlife were reported. Nonetheless, rabies is indicated as occurring amongst cattle and wildlife.^{viii}

According to recent media reports, there was a rabies outbreak in March 2014, in two districts, with rabid dogs attacking humans, and cases in sheep and cattle^{ix}.

IV.) RABIES BIOLOGICS AVAILABILITY

There is no information on rabies post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) and other rabies biologics availability.

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- ⁱ CIA (2013). The World Factbook: Uzbekistan. <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/uz.html> [accessed 24.04.2014]
- ⁱⁱ UNDP (2013). The Rise of the South: Human Progress in a Diverse World. Human Development Report 2013. New York: UNDP. http://hdr.undp.org/sites/default/files/reports/14/hdr2013_en_complete.pdf [accessed 24.04.2014]
- ⁱⁱⁱ Kuzmin IV, AD Botvinkin, EM Poleschuk, LA Orciari, CE Rupprecht (2006). Bat rabies surveillance in the former Soviet Union. *Dev Biol*; 125:273-82.
- ^{iv} OIE World Animal Health Information System. Uzbekistan. http://www.oie.int/wahis_2/public/wahid.php/Countryinformation/reporting/reporthistory [accessed 23.04.2014]
- ^v News-Asia. Узбекистан опасается вспышки бешенства. 11.03.2014. <http://www.news-asia.ru/view/uz/6062> [accessed 24.04.2014]
- ^{vi} 12 news.uz. В Узбекистане опровергли сообщения о массовом заражении животных бешенством. 12.03.2014. <http://www.12news.uz/news/2014/03/12/в-узбекистане-опровергли-сообщения-о-5/> [accessed 24.04.2014]
- ^{vii} Hampson K and Partners for Rabies Prevention (in prep). Estimating the global burden of endemic canine rabies.
- ^{viii} OIE World Animal Health Information System. Uzbekistan. http://www.oie.int/wahis_2/public/wahid.php/Countryinformation/reporting/reporthistory [accessed 23.04.2014]
- ^{ix} UZ News. Mass rabies epidemic in Jizzakh province. 04.03.2014. <http://www.uznews.net/en/society/25351-mass-rabies-epidemic-in-jizzah-province> [accessed 24.04.2014]