

JABATAN PERKHIDMATAN VETERINAR MALAYSIA

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- 1. Spay and neuter strays to curb rabies, say activists; Star Online
- 2. Kementerian kesihatan pantau wabak rabies; Berita harian
- 3. Peniaga kepala batu; Harian Metro

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MEDIA CETAK		MEDIA ELEKTRONIK		
BERITA HARIAN	THE MALAY MAIL	BERITA HARIAN THE MALAY MAIL		
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THE SUN	SUNDAY STAR	THE SUN		
RUANGAN:	M/SURAT:	RUANGAN: Metro News		
PERKARA				
DASAR JABATAN	IMPORT EKSPORT	SISTEM KUALITI PELBAGAI		
KESIHATAN AWAM	KAWALAN PENYAKIT	PENGUATKUASAAN		
KEBAJIKAN HAIWAN	TEKNOLOGI VETERINAR	ADUAN		
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21 Januari 2019				

Spay and neuter strays to curb rabies, say activists

- Metro News
- Monday, 21 Jan 2019

image:

 $https://www.thestar.com.my/\sim/media/online/2019/01/20/12/12/25148.ashx/?w=620\&h=413\&cop=1\&hash=AF2A0EEF846C71AD118D430BFDC9BB873D75D0D8$



A Veterinary Services Department personnel holding up the notice on rabies while making their rounds in Taiping. — filepic

PET owners should vaccinate and neuter their pets as a preventive measure against rabies.

Noah's Ark Ipoh (NAI) founder Dr Ranjit Kaur Mendhir said the lack of awareness about rabies among pet owners was worrying.

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"All owners should vaccinate their pets voluntarily," she said in response to recent rabies cases in Perak.

On Dec 31 last year, two family members in Taman Sri Kota Phase 2, Taiping, were bitten by their pet.

On Jan 14, Veterinary Services Department director-general Datuk Dr Quaza Nizamuddin Hassan Nizam announced that Taiping and Bukit Gantang were gazetted as rabies-infected areas.

Dr Ranjit added that some dogs smuggled in from Thailand were not vaccinated.

"These dogs are mostly sold in Ipoh and Penang," said Ranjit, adding that instead of catching and culling stray dogs, the authorities should vaccinate and neuter them instead.

Ipoh Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ISPCA) president Ricky Soong Wai Thyew, 35, said greater urgency was needed.

"We are dismayed that instead of sending their dogs for vaccination or getting them neutered, some irresponsible owners just dump their dogs.

"ISPCA usually receives seven to eight calls from pet owners who want to leave their animals at our shelter," said Soong, adding that they could not take any more animals.

"A few days ago, I received a call asking ISPCA to collect two dogs because the owner is moving.

"He was willing to donate RM200 to us. I told him not to dump his dogs, but if he insists, neuter and vaccinate them first," said Soong, adding that stray dogs were the cause of the spread of infectious diseases like rabies.

"It can be prevented if owners neuter and vaccinate their dogs," he added.

On Jan 16, SPCA Malaysia president Datuk Dr Andrew Mohanraj suggested the Trap-Neuter-Manage-Return (TNRM) method was the best way to prevent the spread of rabies.

Under TNRM, rescuers will first trap the animals, neuter or spay them before releasing the strays back to the streets.

Canine Advisory Team Society Selangor also urged the authorities to adopt TNRM since it is cheaper than catching and culling.

Tags / Keywords: Central Region

 $Read\ more\ at\ https://www.thestar.com.my/metro/metro-news/2019/01/21/spay-and-neuter-strays-to-curb-rabies-say-activists/\#DwzyHEhBTlL3BpTL.99$

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SINAR HARIAN KOSMO	SINAR HARIAN KOSMO			
HARIAN METRO NEW STRAITS TIMES	HARIAN METRO NEW STRAIT TIME			
THE SUN SUNDAY STAR	THE SUN			
RUANGAN: Isu M/SURAT: 14	RUANGAN:			
PERKARA				
DASAR JABATAN IMPORT EKSPORT	SISTEM KUALITI PELBAGAI			
KESIHATAN AWAM KAWALAN PENYAKIT	PENGUATKUASAAN			
KEBAJIKAN HAIWAN TEKNOLOGI VETERINAR	ADUAN			
TARIKH				
21 Januari 2019				

Kementerian Kesihatan pantau wabak rabies

Lipis: Kementerian Kesihatan akan membuat pemantauan berterusan bagi memastikan jangkitan rabies atau anjing gila, tidak merebak seperti berlaku pada 2017.

Menteri Kesihatan, Datuk Seri Dr Dzulkefly Ahmad, berkata penyakit itu diisytiharkan sebagai wabak di Sarawak pada Jun 2017, malah ia masih dikesan di negeri berkenaan hingga kini.

"Pemantauan berterusan dilakukan di sana (Sarawak) memandangkan ketika ini, ada kes dikesan. Jika berlaku kes gigitan anjing gila, risiko dijangkiti sangat tinggi.

"Kita perlu terus memantau perkembangan wabak ini daripada menular," katanya selepas melawat Klinik Kesihatan Sungai Koyan dekat sini, semalam.

Keyan dekat sini, semalam.

Kes terbaru warga tua maut Jumaat lalu, seorang warga tua berusia 80 tahun dari Kampung Sungai Du'uh, Serian, meninggal dunia di Hospital Umum Sarawak (HUS) akibat Jangkitan rabies.

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah, dilaporkan berkata pada 11 Januari lalu, mangsa mengalami demam, batuk, muntah, lesu, sakit badan dan lemah pada tangan kiri.

Dr Noor Hisham berkata, mangsa kemudian mendapatkan rawatan di klinik swasta pada hari sama, namun tidak memaklumkan digigit anjing.

Mangsa dirujuk ke HUS 14 Januari lalu, selepas penyakit dihidapi tidak berkurangan ketika mendapatkan rawatan ulangan, malah bertambah teruk dengan gejala neurologi, termasuk hidrofobia dan aerofobia.

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THE SUN SUNDAY STAR	THE SUN		
RUANGAN: Tengah M/SURAT: 26	RUANGAN:		
PERKARA			
DASAR JABATAN IMPORT EKSPORT	SISTEM KUALITI PELBAGAI		
KESIHATAN AWAM KAWALAN PENYAKIT	PENGUATKUASAAN		
KEBAJIKAN HAIWAN TEKNOLOGI VETERINAR	ADUAN		
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