

**[BAI JOINT DA, DOH, DEPED, DILG
ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 01 SERIES OF 2008,
August 01, 2008]**

**IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS IMPLEMENTING
REPUBLIC ACT 9482 AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE CONTROL AND
ELIMINATION OF HUMAN AND ANIMAL RABIES, PRESCRIBING
PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION THEREOF AND APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR**

TITLE

SECTION 1. Title- This Act shall be known as the Anti-Rabies Act of 2007

Rule 1 - These Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) are issued and promulgated pursuant to Section 12 of Republic Act 9482. These rules are promulgated to prescribe the procedures and guidelines for the implementation of the Anti-Rabies Act of 2007 to facilitate compliance and achieve the objectives thereof.

DECLARATION OF POLICY AND DEFINITION OF TERMS

SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy - It is the declared policy of the state to protect and promote the right to health of the people. Towards this end, a system for the control, prevention of the spread, and eventual eradication of human and animal Rabies shall be provided and the need for responsible pet ownership established.

SECTION 3. Definition of Terms - For the purpose of this Act, the following shall mean:

- a. Bitten refers to an act by which a Dog seizes, cuts or grips with its teeth so that the skin of a person has been wounded, pierced or scratched.
- b. Concerned officials refer to barangay officials, health workers, police officers or government veterinarians.
- c. Direct supervision refers to range supervision where physical presence of the veterinarian within the barangay is necessary.
- d. Dog refers to a common quadruped domestic animal belonging to the order carnivora (male or female), scientifically known as *Canis familiaris*
- e. Euthanasia refers to the process of painless death to Dogs and other animals,
- f. Impound refers to seize and hold in the custody of the law.
- g. Owner refers to any person keeping, harbouring or having charge, care or control

of a Dog including his/her representative.

h. Pound refers to a public enclosure for stray animals

i. Public Place refers to any place open to the public like parks, malls, markets, streets, etc.

j. Rabies refers to a highly fatal disease caused by a lyssa virus," transmitted mainly through the bite of an infected animal and is characterized by muscle paralysis, hydrophobia and aerophobia, and other neurological manifestations.

k. Rabies transmission refers to the transmission or passage of the Rabies Virus through a bite by an infected animal, or through contamination with virus-laden saliva on breaks in the skin and of mucous membranes such as the eyes, the lips, the mouth, or the genital organs.

l. Rabies Vaccination/Immunoprophylaxis of Humans refers to the inoculation of human with modern day rabies vaccines or Rabies immunoglobulin, by a trained doctor or nurse under the supervision of a qualified medical practitioner.

m. Rabies Vaccination of Dogs refers to the inoculation of a Dog with Rabies vaccine by a licensed government or private veterinarian or trained individual under the direct supervision of a licensed veterinarian. The services of the said trained individual shall be limited only to Rabies Vaccination Injection in Dogs and only during government mass vaccination campaigns.

n. Post-exposure Treatment (P.E.T) refers to an anti-Rabies treatment administered after an exposure to Rabies which includes local wound care, rabies vaccine, with or without anti-Rabies immunizing agent.

o. Pre-exposure Prophylaxis (P.E.P) refers to Rabies vaccination administered before an exposure to Rabies to those who are at high risk of getting Rabies.

p. Stray Dog refers to any Dog leaving its Owner's place or premise and no longer under the effective control of the Owner.

q. Veterinary or Human Barbiturates refer to drugs that depress the function of the central nervous system.

Rule 3.1 The acronyms as used in this IRR are as follows: —

a. ABC-Animal Bite Clinic

b. ABTC -Animal Bite Treatment Center

c. AHD-Animal Health Division

d. BAI - Bureau of Animal Industry

e. BFAD - Bureau of Food and Drugs

f. CHD- Center for Health and Development

g. CHO-City Health Office

h. DA- Department of Agriculture

i. DA-RFUs Regional Field Units of the Department of Agriculture

j. DECS-Department of Education, Culture and Sports

k. DENR- Department of Environment and Natural Resources

- l. DepED-Department of Education
- m. DSWD-Department of Social Work and Development
- n. DILG- Department of Interior and Local Government
- o. DOH-Department of Health
- p. IEC- information, Education and Communication
- q. IRA-Internal Revenue Allotment
- r. IRR-Implementing Rules and Regulations
- s. LGU - Local Government Unit
- t. LRCC-Local Rabies Control Committee
- u. MAO-Municipal Agriculture Office
- v. MHO - Municipal Health Office
- w. NCDPC - National Center for Disease Prevention and Control
- x. NGO - Non-Government Organization
- y. NRPCC National Rabies Prevention and Control Committee
- z. OIE - office International des Epizooties
- aa) PCMVLP- Provincial, City and Municipal Veterinarians' League of the Philippines
- bb) PDEA- Philippine Drug Enforcement Authority
- cc) PO - Peoples' Organization
- dd) PRC- Professional Regulation Commission
- ee) PTR - Professional Tax Receipt
- ff) RPO- Responsible Pet Ownership
- gg) TIN -Tax Identification Number
- hh) WHO -World Health Organization

Rule 3.2 Other terms used in this IRR are defined hereunder:

- a. Adoption refers to taking up and making one's own, homeless dogs/pets.
- b. Animal Bite Treatment Center refers to the government facilities providing PEP and PET for rabies.
- c. Animal control facility refers to a facility that accepts and/or seizes animals for the purpose of caring for them, placing them through adoption, or carrying out law enforcement, whether or not the facility is operated for profit. This includes facilities such as, but not limited to pounds, shelters, animal rescue centers, airport quarantine and animal holding facilities, transportation depots and stations.
- d. Carcass disposal refers to the acceptable and safe method of getting rid of the dead animals.
- e. Central database refers to the compilation of information regarding all registered and vaccinated dogs handled by a single entity.
- f. Committee in this document shall refer to the National Rabies Prevention and Control Committee.
- g. Dog farming refers to the raising of dogs for meat, fur and other articles intended for human use/consumption.
- h. Field Control refers to managing the movement of dogs in public places.
- i. High Risk Personnel refers to people who in the course of their occupation are

directly or indirectly exposed to rabies such as but not limited to laboratory staff, veterinarian, animal handlers, and vaccinators. '

J. High Risk Depressed Areas refers to areas defined and identified by the Committee as such.

k. Human rabies high incidence areas refer to areas defined and identified by the Committee as such.

I. information, Education and Communication refers to the approaches to disseminate information on rabies awareness and advocacy to RPO.

m. Mandatory Registration refers to the requirement for all dog owners to submit their dog for registration in the LGU.

n. Mass vaccination refers to the inoculation of at least 80% of the unvaccinated dog population within a month in the concerned LGU.

o. Neutering refers to the surgical removal under anesthesia of the ovaries and uterus in the female and testicles for the male animals.

p. NGO refers to the private, non-stock and non-profit organization formed to provide welfare and development services.

q. PO refers to non-profit organization with identifiable leaderships, structures and is membership-based, largely voluntary organizations that operate at the grass-roots level that promote their members interests and are established primarily to serve the needs of a particular sector.

r. Pet Owner refers to any person keeping, harbouring or having charge, care or control of a dog including his/her representative.

s. Properly immunized dogs refer to dogs inoculated against rabies yearly.

t. Rabies Free Zone refers to areas/zones that have been declared by the DA and DOH as free from rabies as recommended by the Committee.

u. Rabies Surveillance system refers to the procedures set to monitor and detect occurrence of human or animal rabies cases.

v. Responsible pet ownership refers to proper care of pet including veterinary care, vaccinations, de-worming, feeding, shelter and provision of activities to promote health and development.

w. "Tandok" refers to a person or the practice of applying traditional remedies in relation to dog bites.

NATIONAL RABIES PREVENTION AND CONTROL PROGRAM

SECTION 4. National Rabies Prevention and Control Program - It is hereby mandated that there shall be a National Rabies Prevention and Control Program to be implemented by a multi-agency/multi-sectoral committee chaired by the Bureau

of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture. The program shall be a multi-agency effort in controlling and eliminating Rabies in the country. Among its component activities include: (1) mass vaccination of Dogs; (2) establishment of a central database system for registered and vaccinated Dogs; (3) impounding field control and disposition of unregistered, Stray and unvaccinated Dogs; (4) conduct of information and education campaign on the prevention and control of Rabies; (5) provision on pre-exposure treatment to high risk personnel and Post Exposure Treatment to animal bite victims; (6) provision of free routine immunization or Pre-exposure Prophylaxis (P. E.P) of schoolchildren aged five to fourteen in areas where there is high incidence of rabies as well as the (7) encouragement of the practice of responsible pet ownership. The program shall be implemented by the Department of Agriculture (DA), Department of Health (DOH), Department of Interior and Local government (DILG) and Department of Education (DepEd) as well as Local Government units (LGUs) with the assistance of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources Units (LGUs) with the assistance of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) and People's Organization (POs).

Creation of the National Rabies Prevention and Control Committee (NRPCC)

Rule 4.1 There shall be created a National Rabies Prevention and Control Committee (referred to as the Committee) chaired by the DA-BAI and vice-chaired by the DOH-NCDPC. The committee members shall be composed of one duly authorized representative for each of the following departments: DA, DOH, DILG, and DepEd. One representative each for the following: DENR, NGOs, POs, academe, LGUs, and PCMVLP shall be appointed by the Chairman as members of the committee.

Rule 4.1.1 The Committee may create technical working groups which shall likewise be multi-sectoral or multi-agency for the purpose of assisting the committee.

Rule 4.1.2 The DA-BAI shall act as secretariat for the Committee. The secretariat shall be responsible among others in sending of notices, keeping all minutes, records and documents relative to the meetings or deliberations of the committee.

Rule 4.1.3 The committee shall have regular monthly meetings or as often as maybe necessary to implement the Program.

Rule 4.1.4 The Committee shall establish the appropriate organizational structure and internal rules and governing its operation and management to ensure orderly, consistent and full cooperation of its members 15 days after the effectivity of the IRR.

Rule 4.1.5 The Committee shall be primarily responsible for formulating the National Rabies Prevention and Control Program hereinafter, referred to as the Program, and recommend additional rules and regulations as maybe necessary in the implementation thereof.

Rule 4.1.6 The programs initiated by the existing National Rabies Committee and the Rabies Control Consultative Committee created by virtue of a memorandum of agreement between DA, DOH, DILG, and DECS (now known as the DepEd) dated May 9, 1991 shall whenever possible be integrated/absorbed in the program.