

**KAP study in brucellosis among personnel in direct contact with
animals in Fayoum governorate**

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By

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Summary of KAP of brucellosis

Brucellosis is still endemic and serious public health problem in Egypt in both animal and human as it was recorded in animals in 1939. Since then it still endemic and reported in almost all over Egyptian governorates. The problem of human brucellosis in Egypt is underestimated, since recording of brucellosis patients is almost restricted to the governmental hospitals and the awareness of medical specialists is very weak in relation to brucellosis.

Very few data exist that reveals current level of awareness of brucellosis and the behavior related to endemism of brucellosis in Egypt. In attempts to gain better understanding of this situation, the current study aimed to assess the existing knowledge, attitude and various practices undertaken by the most available exposed groups for brucellosis infection in different rural areas in Fayoum. This may help in the provision of base line diagnostic data for communication and health education strategies targeting these high risk groups.

This descriptive study was carried out in 3 districts areas in Fayoum governorate, where a group of 300 direct animal contacts, were interviewed using questionnaire covering the following items

- Socio-demographic characteristics
- Knowledge about brucellosis ,general knowledge, symptoms in animal and in human ,transmission and measures of prevention between animal and human
- Attitudes towards preventive measures of brucellosis
- Common practices of veterinary doctors regarding preventive measures
- Common practices of animal breeders regarding (breeding animal practices, cleaning and vaccination practices)

The current study revealed the followings:

- About half the participants heard about brucellosis (50.3%). The majority were animal examiners especially the veterinary doctors (100%)
- Almost most of the participants knew the reservoir of brucellosis by different percentages
- There was different in the level of knowledge regarding mode of transmission of brucellosis in-between animals and human among the participants with higher level of the animal examiners than both animal breeders and abattoir workers.

- The level of knowledge about mode of transmission in human was higher than the mode of transmission in-between animals
- There was different in the level of knowledge regarding some items of the symptoms in animal and human among the participants with higher level of the animal examiners than both animal breeders and abattoir workers except fever and night sweats at night the.
- Although there was different in the level of knowledge regarding in some items of the preventive measures in both animal and human among the participants with higher level of the animal examiners than both animal breeders and abattoir workers, but the level of knowledge in general was low among the all participants.
- Most of the interviewed 95.4% who heard about brucellosis agreed about possibility of prevention of brucellosis and most of them have positive attitude towards preventive measures
- Only 12% of veterinary doctors vaccinate animals against brucellosis and on a private basis
- Most the Causes of malpractice of veterinary doctors related to the unavailability and the defect of veterinary services
- Cattle , buffaloes and sheep represent the main types of animals the animal breeders had
- Most of the animal breeders (74%) keeping different animal species in the same place
- The majority of the animal breeders keeping their animals in their houses by percentages 43% and 12 % or beside the house by a percentage 27.5 and only 17.5 raising animals in a farm
- About 25% of animal breeders had animals with abortion or animals with delivery of dead fetes
- The lady of most animal breeders (92%) was the person responsible for milking the animal
- Most of persons (95%) responsible for milking the animal not wear gloves during milking process
- Nearly all the animal breeders (98%) clean the animal place regularly
- Only 29% of the animal breeders always wear gloves during cleaning the animal place and 9% sometimes wear the gloves
- Most of the animal breeders (92%) wash their hands after cleaning the animal place

- about the half of the animal breeders (55%) regularly washing the hands after feeding the animal and 15% sometimes washing their hands after feeding
- Most of the animal breeders (86.7%) use the animal excreta as manure and only 4.7% drying the animal excreta and using it as a fuel material
- About most of the animal breeders (75.3%) thrown the placenta and dead animals in the ponds and canals, and only 14% of the animal breeders burial them in the ground
- About 35% of the animal breeders leaving their children help them in breeding the animals
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- Almost most of the animal breeders (83%) not heard about the vaccine of brucellosis

Conclusion:

- In spite of brucellosis causes considerable morbidity and economic losses; we found that the general awareness was low regarding brucellosis. Since about half the interviewed persons had no idea about brucellosis especially among animal breeders and abattoir workers and accompanied by defect in sound practices.
- The level of knowledge was low in relation to many items, especially knowledge about mode of transmission and preventive measures.
- Almost, the Attitude was positive regarding most the items of the infection control measures.
- Even in the presence of good knowledge of the animal examiners, especially the veterinary doctors, this knowledge not necessary translated into good practice. Since there was a defect in supplies in the veterinary services (masks, gloves, waste containers, vaccines).
- No motivation to the role of health education to help in raising the awareness of people about the disease