

Bactad, A. (2011). Practices and beliefs in the management of dog bites among residents of Canotan, La Union. Lorma Colleges, City of San Fernando, La Union.

*Key Words : Rabies, Rabid Dog*

### **Abstract**

This study determined the practices and beliefs of the residents of the six (6) selected barangays of the municipality of Bacnotan, La Union in the management of dog bites and the reasons for their utilization of these practices for the calendar year 2010-2011.

Descriptive method of research was employed. A questionnaire was the main data gathering tool. Frequency count and percentages were utilized to analyze the data gathered.

The dominant practices of the respondents in the management of dog bites are medically established however, some still resort to folk modalities which are not yet proven to be safe and effective.

As a conclusion, the respondents prefer the medically accepted practices in the management of dog bites however; the percentage of those who adhere to non-medically accepted practices is still alarming.

The recommendations of this study are conceptualized as follows: (1) a more intensive campaign and information dissemination about the proper management of dog bites should be undertaken by the Department of Health; (2) the DOH should see to it that sufficient vaccines are always available in health centers or public hospitals; (3) schools especially offering paramedical courses must take part in the information campaign and dissemination; (4) Animal Bite Centers must be available in every community; (5) barangay officials must see to it that every dog must be vaccinated; and (6) the Information Education Campaign Material be utilized by the hospitals and other health sectors, agencies and institutions as a primary information source or as a reference.