

# Bulacan continues to provide free vaccination against rabies

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CITY OF MALOLOS, Bulacan –The provincial veterinarian head yesterday announced that the free vaccination for dogs and cats in several barangays will start today in the towns of Pandi and Balagtas.

However, PV head Dr. Voltaire Basinang, said that if a barangay wishes for free vaccinations to be conducted in their area, the only requirement is a request letter addressed to the Gov. Wilhelmino M. Sy-Alvarado .

Basinang said that to control the prevalence of rabies, the provincial government of Bulacan continues to provide free vaccination against rabies to dogs and cats throughout Bulacan.

They also are continuously carrying out information drive about rabies and encourage Bulakenyos to be responsible pet owners.

Basinang also reported that Bulacan now ranked 9th from its previous 7th place among the provinces with highest records of animal bite cases.

The record of the PVO also shows that 25 dogs were positively diagnosed with rabies last year and eight dogs during the first quarter of 2018. Moreover five deaths were recorded in 2017 while six people died in 2018.

In line with this, Governor Alvarado issued a letter in February mandating every municipality to hire a municipal veterinarian and acquire dog pounds that can be home to stray, lost, abandoned or surrendered animals.

“Kailangan natin ‘to para mas accessible para sa ating mga kababayan, mas malapit sa kanila. Wala ng dahilan para hindi nila mapabakunahan ang mga alaga nila (We need to make this more accessible to our provincemates. They will have no more reason not to make their pets vaccinated),” Alvarado said.

The governor added that the first two vaccinations for the post-exposure prophylaxis, a vaccine for humans bitten or scratched by animals, are also given free at the Bulacan Medical Center.