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Reported Human and Animal Brucellosis in Uganda, 2017–2024: A One Health Analysis of National Surveillance Data

Inhalt

Background: Brucellosis is a zoonotic bacterial disease endemic in Uganda. We described temporal and spatial distribution of animal and human brucellosis in Uganda during 2017–2024 to inform coordinated control.

Methods: We analyzed clinically diagnosed human brucellosis reported in the District Health Information Software version 2 and clinically diagnosed animal cases reported in the national animal health surveillance database. Brucellosis incidence was calculated using Uganda Bureau of Statistics projected human populations and reported animal populations at risk. Temporal trends were assessed using the Mann-Kendall trend test.

Findings: A total of 1,542,564 human cases (90% reporting rate) and 14,054 animal cases (22% reporting rate) were reported. Brucellosis incidence increased by 6 cases per 100,000 annually in animals ($p=0.04$) but remained stable in humans (median incidence: 115/100,000, $p=0.10$). South-Central Region had the highest brucellosis incidence in animals (578/100,000); Karamoja had the highest incidence in humans (733/100,000). Spatial co-reporting of human and animal brucellosis was concentrated mostly in Ankole Region.

Conclusion: Reported brucellosis incidence increased statistically in animals but remained stable in humans. Low animal-sector reporting suggests that observed geographic discordance may reflect surveillance gaps. Institutionalizing routine joint analysis of human and animal data is essential for targeted One Health brucellosis control.

Keywords

Animal, Human, One Health, Surveillance, Brucellosis, Uganda

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Yes, I am a Junior Scientist.

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