

# Epidemiological situation of aggressions/accidents caused by chiropterans in the international border strip of Brazil, between 2007 and 2020

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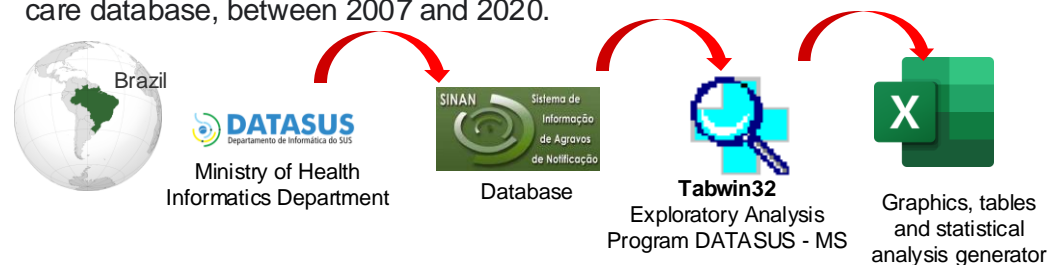
## INTRODUCTION

Chiropterans can transmit the rabies virus to mammals through the feeding activity of vampire bats or through accidents when hematophagous and non-hematophagous bats are handled without adequate protection.

Objectives: to analyze the epidemiological situation of notifications of attacks/accidents caused by chiropterans in the 11 states on the Brazilian international border.

## METHODOLOGY

This is a quantitative and retrospective descriptive study of the anti-rabies care database, between 2007 and 2020.



## RESULTS

4,408 notifications were observed (0.05% of the country = 8,744,592), where Amazonas (1,411; 32.01%) and Paraná (872; 19.78%) corresponded to 51.79% of notifications, with the five main reporting municipalities represented by: Barcelos/Amazonas (727; 16.49%), São Gabriel da Cachoeira/Amazonas (251; 5.69%), Foz do Iguaçu/Paraná (223; 5.06%), Tabatinga/Amazonas (199; 4.51%) and Alto Alegre/Roraima (182; 4.13%). Frequently reported in 2017 (805; 18.26%) in november (724; 16.42%), they usually involved males (2,654; 60.21%) aged between 20 and 34 years (1,078; 24.46%), who suffered bites (3,397; 77.06%) in the hands/feet region (2,570; 58.30%), with single-type injuries (2,879; 65.31%), superficial (2,180; 49.46%) and deep (1,364; 30.94%), with a prophylactic regimen of anti-rabies serum plus vaccination (2,661; 60.37%) being frequently indicated.

## CONCLUSION

Bat attacks/accidents in the Brazilian international border zone have been prevalent in the states of Amazonas and Paraná, and the five most reported municipalities were: Barcelos/Amazonas, São Gabriel da Cachoeira/Amazonas, Foz do Iguaçu/Paraná, Tabatinga/Amazonas and Alto Alegre/Roraima. In 2017 and november, these were the periods with the highest notifications. Male individuals between 20 and 34 years old were the most susceptible, with exposure to bites in the areas of the hands/feet, causing single, superficial and deep wounds, and were frequently recommended to undergo a prophylactic regimen of anti-rabies serum plus vaccination.