

Healthcare professional and health belief and attitude influenced vaccine hesitancy among parents living in Kuantan, Pahang

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: Worldwide, 1 in 5 children did not receive routine life-saving immunization and approximately 1.5 million children die each year due to disease that could be prevented by vaccine. The issue is complex and varies across the time, place and vaccine which are influenced by factors such as complacency, misinformation, convenience and confidence. The effort of closing the immunization gap is a growing challenge in Malaysia as there are emerging numbers of parents that delay or refuse in giving vaccination to their children. Thus, our study aimed to identify the factors that influenced vaccine hesitance among parents living in Kuantan, Pahang. **Methodology:** The cross-sectional study was conducted among randomly assigned 155 parents aged 18 years and above using a guided and validated questionnaire. The questionnaire was divided into 3 parts; part A: Sociodemographic characteristics; part B: Parent Attitude about Vaccine Hesitancy (PACV); and part C: Influencing factors (adapted from WHO). Socio-demographic characteristics were analysed descriptively and factors influencing vaccine hesitance was analysed using logistic regression. The p-value is significant when it is <0.05 . **Result:** The prevalence of vaccine hesitancy among respondents was 7.6%. Majority of the respondents agreed that post vaccination experience influenced them most (95.5%) to be vaccine hesitant followed by vaccination schedule (60.5%), role of healthcare professional and awareness (56.1%) and risk and benefit (51.6). Logistic regression analysis found that beliefs and attitude about health and prevention and role of healthcare professional significantly associated with vaccine hesitancy, $p=0.043$ and $p=0.026$ respectively. **Conclusion:** The role of healthcare professional in providing the vaccine and respondent's belief and attitude about health and prevention are important factors influencing vaccine hesitancy among parents. Thus, it is important for health care staff to treat patient with respect and convey the health information correctly.

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Healthcare providers' perspectives on factors influencing family planning utilisation among diabetes mellitus type 2 women in Gombak district- a qualitative study

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: Family planning is an effective intervention to reduce morbidity and mortality among reproductive Diabetes Mellitus Type 2 women. However, under utilisation and low acceptance remains a concern and can be influenced by many factors. The objective of this study is to assess factors influencing the utilisation of family planning among reproductive Diabetes Mellitus Type 2 women in Gombak district from the healthcare provider's perspectives. **Methodology:** This study was carried out in primary health clinics in Gombak district, Selangor. A total of 20 in depth interviews comprising of doctors and staff nurses were conducted using semi structured questionnaires in the designated setting. This study documented healthcare providers' perception on factors influencing family planning utilisation among reproductive Diabetes Mellitus Type 2 women. The study was analysed using a deductive approach to assign the emergent themes to broader category reflective of the study's conceptual framework. **Findings:** Healthcare providers felt that there were several factors which influenced a diabetic women on their uptake of modern family planning methods. Among them are inadequate knowledge and awareness, low partners participation, decision making autonomy, influence from external sources, concern on side effects, misconception and cultural beliefs, women's own perceptions as well as workplace restrictions. **Discussion:** This study draws attention that besides awareness and knowledge, the need to educate and motivate couples to utilise family planning methods is very important. Thus, all family planning activities and counselling involving both husbands and wives should be considered. This will also increase family planning utilisation and services to achieve more effective contraceptive usage and restore maternal health.