

Brushing Teeth Among In-School Malaysian Adolescent.

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ABSTRACT

INTRODUCTION: Tooth brushing is an essential personal practice that contributes to individual good oral health. Good tooth brushing practice had been recommended at least twice daily by World Health organization to prevent the burden of oral disease. Therefore, the objective of the study was to determine the prevalence of brushing teeth and its associated factors among school-going adolescents in Malaysia 2017. **METHODS:** Cross-sectional designed national survey was conducted in 2017 among adolescents aged 13 to 17 years. Validated self-administered bilingual questionnaire adapted from the Malaysian Global School Health Survey with computer-scan-able answer sheets was distributed to 30,823 adolescents attending the government secondary schools in Malaysia and 89.2% responded to the questionnaire given. Complex sample analysis with multivariate were done using SPSS version 21. **RESULT:** 87% (87.1%; 95%CI: 86.2, 88.0) of the adolescents reported that they had brushed their teeth at least twice daily. Adolescents who was male (aOR: 2.54, 95%CI: 2.32, 2.77), reported ever used drugs (aOR: 2.55 95%CI: 2.13, 3.06), and eating fruits less than twice daily (AOR: 1.83 95%CI: 1.67, 2.00) significantly associated with higher odd chances of having unhygienic practice in oral health. **DISCUSSION:** The prevalence of tooth brushing among adolescents at least twice daily were lower with risk factors associated unhygienic practice were determined. Adolescents need to be encouraged and empowered to take responsibility of their own personal oral hygiene starting at the school level.

KEYWORDS: Tooth brushing, Oral Hygiene, Adolescents, Malaysia

Can Malaysia Mosquito Autocidal Traps Help to Reduce Dengue Cases? Preliminary Assessment, Jasin 2018

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ABSTRACT

BACKGROUND Populations of Aedes mosquitoes can be managed through reductions in adult mosquito survival and number of off-spring produced. Both can be simultaneously reduced by capturing gravid female Aedes with sticky gravid traps. Mosquito Autocidal Traps (MyMat) are a low-cost container with sticky rings on the inner surface to attract and capture the adult mosquitoes. The aim of this study was to report the preliminary effect of MyMAT in the number of dengue cases reported in the Taman Bemban Jaya and Taman Muhibbah Fasa 3, Jasin Melaka 2018. **METHODS:** We conducted a cross sectional study from 26 March 2016 to 2nd April 2017 in 2 dengue outbreak areas in Jasin District. Hundred MyMat were placed randomly indoors and outdoors per locality. Data were collected from the observation sheet and web-based reporting system. **RESULTS** A total of 12,374 female Aedes mosquitoes was collected throughout the study. The density of mosquitoes collected higher on trapped placed indoor (52.3%) compared to outdoors (47.7%). There were reductions in the number of dengue cases reported after implementation of MyMat. Taman Bemban Jaya showed 100% (2015:15 cases, 2018: no case) reduction and 92% reduction for Taman Muhibbah Fasa 3 (2015:12 cases, 2018:1 case). No outbreaks were reported after one year of MyMat implementation. **CONCLUSION** These preliminary findings suggest that MyMat might reduce virus transmission by reducing mosquito density and furthermore reduce the number of dengue cases reported. It can be used to complement source reduction efforts in controlling transmission.

KEYWORDS: MyMat, female Aedes, outbreaks, dengue cases