

Impact of Overcrowding Among Staff in Hospital Serdang

Aniz Nor Sofia Binti Mohamed, MBBS

ABSTRACT

BACKGROUND: Urbanisation itself brings an advantages and disadvantages which lead to hospital overcrowding. It has been described as the most serious problem that endangers the reliability of health system worldwide. As 2018, Hospital Serdang documented a very high bed occupancy rate (BOR) more than 100% for almost every day. **OBJECTIVES:** To study the impact of overcrowding among staff in Hospital Serdang. **METHODS:** This a one-year retrospective cross-sectional study from January 2018 until December 2018. The data was collected from Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) Unit Hospital Serdang through Depression Anxiety Stress Scale (DASS) questionnaire and other data such as road traffic accident, needle stick, and mercury and splash injury among staff were also collected. The sociodemographic data, comorbid, type of occupation was analysed. The exclusion criteria are those with incomplete data. **RESULTS:** Out of 562 staff, 5.7% were screened to have bad DASS score, which comprises of 0.9% stress, 6.6% anxiety and 1.8% depression and referrals to psychiatrist and counsellor were made. About 2.8% of the staff had Needle Stick and splash Injury (NSI), 0.1% had mercury injury while 0.7% had involved in road traffic accident (RTA). **CONCLUSION:** More than 94% of staff in Serdang Hospital are having good mental status with low incidence of NSI, mercury injury and RTAs. Even though DASS scoring is a clinical assessment that that used for screening, it cannot be under looked as mental ill health is a growing problem and need urgent attention.

KEYWORDS: Overcrowding, staff, impact

Imported Human Malaria in Sarawak, 2013-2017

Ooi Choo Huck

Vector Borne Diseases Section, Sarawak Health Department, Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia.

ABSTRACT

INTRODUCTION: Sarawak embarked on the elimination of autochthonous human malaria in 2012 and had set 2020 as its deadline for elimination of human malaria transmission in Sarawak. The objective of this study was to describe the epidemiology of imported human malaria in Sarawak. **METHODS:** This was a retrospective descriptive study conducted on the malaria epidemiological surveillance data in Sarawak State Health Department between January 2013 and December 2017. **RESULTS:** There were 994 imported human malaria cases reported in Sarawak in 2013-2017 with an increasing trend from 182 cases in 2013 to 218 cases in 2017. 978 (98.4%) cases were males. The distribution of the cases by species were *Plasmodium vivax* (48.6%), *Plasmodium falciparum* (35.3%), *Plasmodium malariae* (7.0%), *Plasmodium ovale* (5.6%), Mixed Species (2.6%), and *Plasmodium knowlesi* (0.8%). The age-group distribution of the cases was "0-19 years"(1.0%), "20-39 years"(35.6%), "40-59 years"(59.9%) and "60 years and above"(3.5%). 92.3% of the cases were Malaysians. **DISCUSSION:** Autochthonous human malaria had been on the decline in Sarawak from 2012 to 2015, and the elimination of autochthonous human malaria in Sarawak has been successful in which there was no reported autochthonous human malaria since 2016. The persistent burden of imported malaria in Sarawak may contribute to introduced malaria which could further contribute to autochthonous malaria cases which could prevent Sarawak from achieving malaria elimination in Sarawak by 2020.

KEYWORDS: imported malaria, sarawak, elimination