

Knowledge, Attitude and Practice Study Towards Malaria and Its Drug Prophylaxis Among Malaysian Army Trainees

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ABSTRACT

INTRODUCTION: Malaria is one of the most important public health problems in term of morbidity and mortality. Military are exposing themselves to multiple hazards, with the risk of getting infected with Malaria. Researcher has assessed the basic and general knowledge, attitude and the practices (KAP) of army trainees towards Malaria and drug prophylaxis given. **METHODS:** A cross sectional study using questionnaire survey form was done with the Malaysian Army trainees in PUSASDA Camp. Total number of one thousand four hundred and seventy-five (n=1475) trainees participated in this survey using universal sampling method. Using SPSS software version 24, descriptive and inferential analysis was done. **RESULTS:** Majority of army trainees (86.6%) at PUSASDA had good knowledge (Mean Knowledge Score = 10.98 ± 1.46), positive attitude (65.5%) (Mean Attitude Score = 4.08 ± 0.69) and good practice (81.3%) (Mean Practice Score = 4.11 ± 1.07) towards Malaria and anti-Malaria medicine, and there is a positive association of army trainees' sociodemographic factor and their KAP towards Malaria and its drug chemo prophylaxis (Education; $p=0.024$, Marital status; $p=0.0007$). **DISCUSSION:** It is found that the trainees who have positive knowledge and positive attitude towards Malaria and anti-Malaria medicine, they have completed the intake of antibiotic drugs (Doxycycline) as advised by the doctor ($\chi^2(4) = 16.5, p < 0.05$).

KEYWORDS: Malaria, Military, KAP, Prophylaxis drug, Military medicine

Knowledge, Attitude and Practices (KAP) of Dengue Prevention Among Malaysia Adult

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ABSTRACT

INTRODUCTION: Dengue fever cases are increasing every year despite various preventative control efforts been carried out by the responsible parties. Community involvement is important in reducing dengue in Malaysia. This study was conducted to assess the knowledge, attitude and practices (KAP) on dengue prevention among Malaysian adults. **METHODS:** A cross-sectional study was conducted between October and November 2018 among Malaysians aged 18 years old and above. Participants were randomly selected via online and they were invited to participate and completed the online reliable and validated Dengue KAP Survey. Descriptive analysis and multiple linear regression analysis were done by SPSS version 23 software. **RESULTS:** There were 856 respondents participated in the survey and 98% (n=837) respondents were eligible and had completed all the survey items. The mean score of respondent's knowledges on dengue prevention and control was $14.1(SD \pm)$. The mean score for practices domains was $3.91(SD \pm)$. There was a significant positive correlation between knowledge score and practices score ($p < 0.001$), age ($p < 0.003$), income source less than RM2000 ($p < 0.001$) and income source between RM4000 to RM8000 ($p < 0.042$). **DISCUSSION:** Several variables such as age and income status influence the knowledge on dengue prevention. Knowledge on dengue prevention also affects individual's practices on dengue prevention. Empowerment on health promotion and continuous community mobilization program is vital to encourage the community to participate in dengue prevention activities.

KEYWORDS: dengue control, dengue preventive, knowledge attitude and practice, health promotion