

# Epidemiology and Clinical Presentation of COVID-19 Infection in Kinta District, Malaysia: One year on

Peter Gan Kim Soon, DrPH<sup>1</sup>, Asraf Ahmad bin Qamruddin, DrPH<sup>2</sup>, Awanis binti Muhammad Sharif, MBBS<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Kinta Health Office, Perak State Health Department, Ipoh, Perak, <sup>2</sup>Manjung Health Office, Perak State Health Department, Setiawan, Perak

## ABSTRACT

**Introduction:** The COVID-19 infection in Malaysia has become a public health emergency that has overwhelmed the healthcare system. The trend of transmission is essential for public health intervention to combat this pandemic. The aim of the study was to determine the epidemiology of COVID-19 transmission in Kinta, Malaysia and identify symptomatic COVID-19 profiles for early diagnosis. **Methods:** A retrospective cross-sectional study was conducted on COVID-19 confirmed cases registered in Kinta District Health Office. Data was analysed using descriptive statistics and Pearson's chi-squared tests to compare the sociodemographic and medical characteristics in the 2nd and 3rd wave of the COVID-19 infection. **Results:** In all 3051 confirmed cases were registered between March 2020 to March 2021. The most common infected individuals were between the ages of 18-40 years old, males, Malays, and history of close contact with confirmed cases. The medical characteristics that were statistically significant between the 2nd and 3rd waves were cigarette smoking, coughing, coryza, shortness of breath, anosmia, ageusia and headache. **Conclusion:** The majority of the confirmed COVID-19 cases were asymptomatic. There is a need to identify the pattern of transmission in the community to manage the outbreak effectively. Reinforce public health practice of trace and test close contacts, treat confirmed cases appropriately, and isolate and support close contacts. Continuous health promotion and education is central to break the chain of infection.

PP-54

# Attitude and Oral Hygiene Practices among Malaysia Adolescents in Rural School: A Comparison by Gender

Nor Azizi Abu Bakar, BSc. (Hons.) Mathematics, Zamtira Seman, MSc. Statistics, Norazizah Ibrahim Wong, BSc. (Hons.) Applied Science, Mohd Azahadi Omar, MCommH

Sector for Biostatistics and Data Repository, Manager Office, National Institutes of Health (NIH), Malaysia

## ABSTRACT

**Introduction:** Poor oral hygiene has long been recognized as a major risk factor for periodontal disease. Good oral hygiene can be defined as good hygienic practice and good attitude of keeping the mouth healthy and clean. **Methods:** Data were obtained from the National Health and Morbidity Survey 2017, which implemented a two-stage stratified random sampling design. In all 11,598 adolescents in rural schools were analyzed using Complex sample logistic regression to examine the effects of associated factors toward oral hygiene behaviour specifically on attitude and practice stratified by gender. **Results:** The prevalence of good oral hygiene practice and attitude among adolescents in rural school were 63.9% and 52.6% respectively. Female had higher prevalence of good practice compared to male, (66.7%, 61.2%), but presented similar result for attitude; males (52.8%) and females (52.5%). For males, higher significant of practice found to be among Bumiputera Sarawak with AOR, 2.27 (95% CI:1.31, 3.92) and Form 3 (AOR=1.50, 95% CI:1.17, 1.92). As for attitude, significant effect was seen among those in Form 5 (AOR=2.64, 95% CI: 1.05, 6.60) and taking milk (AOR=1.64, 95% CI:1.39, 1.92). For females, Form 5 had significantly higher effect of practice (AOR=4.90, 95% CI:1.56, 15.34) and those were Bumiputera Sarawak (AOR=4.46, 95% CI:2.34, 8.50). While for attitude, Form 3 had significantly higher with AOR, 1.27 (95% CI:1.01, 1.60) and taking milk (AOR=1.55, 95% CI:1.34, 1.79). **Conclusion:** This study found that Form 5, Form 3, Bumiputera Sarawak and those taking milk had significantly higher effect on practice and attitude compared to those who were not.