

Comparison of Knowledge, Attitude and Practice among communities living in hotspot and non-hotspot areas of chikungunya in Gopeng, Perak, Malaysia

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: Chikungunya disease is one of the mosquito-borne diseases that established in Malaysia. For year 2020, there have been reported 2556 cases of chikungunya in Malaysia. Perak state itself has the second highest amount cases registered which was 1048 cases. In Gopeng, Perak, 72 cases of chikungunya were reported in 2020. The number of chikungunya cases reported in Gopeng in year 2020 is 3 times higher compared to year 2019 which was 20 cases only. **Objective:** This study was conducted to compare the level of knowledge, attitude and practice among communities living in hotspot and non-hotspot areas of Chikungunya in Gopeng, Perak. **Materials and methods:** Communities from 3 hotspot and 3 non-hotspot areas of chikungunya in Gopeng were selected using the cluster sampling approach. A total of 422 participants were selected from communities using proportionate sampling in each selected area. 1 respondent in every 2 houses will be given questionnaires to answer questionnaires distributed at their housing area. **Results and conclusion:** About 51.8 % of hotspot areas and 56.9% % non-hotspot areas have a good knowledge on chikungunya. 96.4 % living in chikungunya hotspot areas and 93.1 % living in non-hotspot areas have a positive attitude toward the disease. When comparing practice, non-hot spot areas have 82.2 % better practice in vector control than hot spot areas, which only have 51.8 %. However, there is no significant difference found in the mean mark of knowledge, attitude, and practice between both communities. The results indicate that comprehensive chikungunya health education is necessary for Gopeng communities to better understand the disease prevention control.

Keyword: chikungunya , knowledge attitude practice(KAP) ,chikungunya hotspot.