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TITLE

SURVEY ABOUT THE REASON WHY PEOPLE DO OR DO NOT DONATE BLOOD

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ABSTRACT

WHY PEOPLE DO OR DO NOT DONATE BLOOD AMONG UiTM BERTAM STUDENTS'

Although the COVID-19 pandemic has gradually become controllable, it greatly impacts transfusion medicine, especially because of the cancellation of daily blood donation campaigns and donor recruitment becoming less than usual. The shortage of blood supply and demand in our country and the world is significantly affecting blood transfusion services. This study is conducted to assess the knowledge and awareness among the UiTM Health Sciences students regarding blood donation. This study is cross-sectional among the students from Medical Laboratory Technology, Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy, Nursing and Environmental Health between December 2022 and May 2023. A total of 48 respondents participated in this study. All the respondents knew what blood donation is and agreed that it is very important. 81.3% of the respondents showed a positive perception of blood donation and 18.8% of the respondents remained neutral about blood donation. Most of the respondents at 68.8% did not have the experience of donating blood while 31.3% of the respondents have already donated blood. 63.2% of the respondents who donated blood did so to help someone in need of blood. The remaining respondents were motivated to donate blood to gain approval from someone, to gain financial support, and said "I came across a mobile donation unit.". 58.1% of the respondents who have never donated blood failed to meet the requirement to donate blood and 23.3% of them feared donating blood. The remaining respondents did not donate blood because they said, "No one ever asked me to donate blood.", "I do not think that there is a need for donating blood." or "People told me not to donate blood.". Although all the respondents agreed that blood donation is helpful to patients, only 83.3% of the respondents were willing to donate blood in future and 16.7% of the respondents were still unsure whether they will donate blood in the future or not. The knowledge and awareness of some of the respondents were lacking as they feared donating blood. However, fourth-fifth of the respondents expressed that they were willing to donate blood in the future if they had the chance. To alleviate the fears associated with blood donation,

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Finally, we hope that our project can contribute to a lot of people out there as the knowledge of the people regarding blood donation can be lacking. If people knew more about blood donation, this could bring a huge impact to our country's blood donation activity status. Other than that, we would also like to express our gratitude to our friends who were always with us, giving support and exchanging ideas to finalise this project. We are appreciative and grateful for the kindness and attention that was shown to us.

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CHAPTER 1:

INTRODUCTION

There is no doubt that blood donations play a major role in saving lives around the world. According to the World Health Organization, about 118.54 million blood donations are collected worldwide. Blood donation is important for cancer treatment, surgeries, chronic diseases, and traumatic injuries. American Red Cross mentions that a single car accident victim can require as many as 100 units of blood. The Bureau of Transportation Statistics reported that approximately 13 car accidents happen every 60 seconds in the United States. These statistics prove just how needed blood donors are globally. However, it is also found that there is a large portion of people who do not donate their blood. People have their reasons as to why they do or do not donate their blood. To know these reasons, we have decided to create a survey for our project about why people do or do not donate blood.

1.1 Background of the study

Why people do or do not donate blood has always been a hot topic around the world as technology keeps on evolving. Although the need blood supply in Malaysia is increasing steadily, recruiting new donors and retaining existing donors were challenging as numerous factors including comfortable donation settings, staff attitude and professionalism may influence the non-remunerated blood donor's intention to donate (Vavić N, 2012). After research has been conducted in several countries, the growing demand for blood supply has been found to be a global phenomenon. In Canada, it was stated that the blood demand outpaced the supply due to ageing and increased demand (Drackley A, 2012). As for Germany, the number of patients needing transfusion increased from 2005 to 2010 due to the increasing trend of the ageing population (Greinacher A, 2016). Finally, in Japan, the number of donors in their 20s and 30s are decreased yearly and the estimated shortfall of blood donations is expected to increase yearly (Akita T, 2016).