

**UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA**

**A COMPARISON OF KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDE  
AND PRACTISE AMONG DIABETICS TOWARD  
DIABETES WITH AND WITHOUT DIABETIC  
EDUCATION: A SURVEY IN SELANGOR**

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## ABSTRACT

Prevalence and incidence of diabetes are increasing dramatically worldwide. It causes considerable amount of disability, premature mortality, lost of productivity as well as increased demands on health care facilities. In Malaysia, it is ranked at number sixth for the disease that causes death among Malaysians. Many programs had been conducted at national and hospital level to educate diabetics on the knowledge and management of diabetes to slowing the complication that may arise from diabetes such as neuropathy, gangrene and stroke. Thus, this study had been conducted to assess whether there is difference in knowledge, attitude and practice among diabetics who received and did not received diabetes education. This study also examines whether there is any correlation between knowledge, attitude and practice of diabetics. Four hospitals and four *klinik kesihatan* had been chosen to conduct the survey among diabetics and about 180 samples had been collected from June to October 2009. This study revealed that diabetics who received diabetes education are more well-informed on general knowledge of diabetes. However, this founding is not significant between two groups. This study also found that knowledge score is proportional to the level of education possessed by the respondents. It is quite surprising that those who gain knowledge of diabetes from other sources than healthcare providers are more knowledgeable in term of diabetes knowledge especially information from publishing media such as newspapers, magazines and pamphlets.

# CHAPTER 1

## INTRODUCTION

According to Shafie *et al.*, (2004) diabetes mellitus is considered as one of the four most prominent diseases that contribute largely to disability and death around the world. The other top three among this group include cardiovascular disease (CVD), cancer and chronic respiratory disease. These four diseases are linked to each other as a result of common lifestyle determinants such as unhealthy diet consumption, physical inactivity and tobacco use.

The prevalence of diabetes mellitus (DM) especially Type 2 diabetes is increasing dramatically worldwide. According to World Health Organization (WHO), (2003) there are about 171 million people worldwide who suffered from diabetes in year 2000 and this amount is susceptible to rise to 366 million by year 2030. India and China were ranked first and second each by having 31.7 million and 20.8 million diabetic patients in year 2000 followed by United States of America.