

UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

**BONE DENSITY AMONG PHARMACY
STUDENT AND THEIR RELATIONSHIP WITH
LIFESTYLE FACTORS AND OTHER
DETERMINANTS THAT CONTRIBUTE TO THE
LOW BONE DENSITY**

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ABSTRACT

There is lack of data on bone density status among Bumiputera in Malaysia especially in young adult. This study is to determine the bone density among pharmacy students and its relationship with lifestyle and other determinations that contribute bone loss. Bone mineral density (BMD) was determined by using quantitative ultrasound (QUS) at the calcaneal region. Anthropometry, lifestyle habits and family history were also determined by using questionnaire adapted from several sources includes International Osteoporosis Foundation, Advanced Health and Wellbeing PC, Bone Health Profile by Dr. Susan E.B., and Wisconsin Medical Journal. From the study, 340 of pharmacy students were recruited with a mean age 21.1 ± 1.7 . 82.6% of the subjects were a female students and 17.4% was male students. Majority of the pharmacy students are Malay, female student, reside in suburbs and falls in lower income group. In fact, 64.7% of students had normal bone, followed by 31.5% had osteopenia and 3.8% had osteoporotic bone. Year 2 pharmacy students showed that they had highest percentage that had normal bone with 20.3% and 0.6% of osteoporotic bone. Furthermore, studied variables such as weight, height, BMI, body fat were positively correlated with bone density status while gender, exposure to sunlight, milk intolerance and breakfast frequency had negative correlation with bone density. The study revealed that most of the pharmacy students have low background osteoporosis in family, practice active and healthy lifestyle (not smoking, take enough food and vegetable, and drink milk frequently) and they were also not prefer to take supplement in their daily life.

CHAPTER 1

1.0 Introduction

According to the International Osteoporosis Foundation, bones are living tissue and continuous altering. The densest of bone in early 20's is called peak bone mass and it can be a determinant of osteoporotic fracture risk (Bonjour J. P. *et al.*, 1994). Thus, individuals who attain a lower levels peak bone mass are most likely to diagnose osteoporosis as the bone loss arise due to age-related, whereas those with high levels are at lower risk (Seeman E, 1997).

Osteopenia is defined as a phase in the continuum from declined bone mass to break and infirmity, but the term can be explained by the bone mineral content on radiography become lower (Iqbal, 2000). Whereas osteoporosis is refer to decrease in BMD and strength causing increased tendency to fracture (Raisz, 1999). "Osteoporosis is normally a silent disease undiagnosed and until what would otherwise be a minor trauma from a fall, results in a fracture" (Barling, 2013). Osteoporotic fractures that has significant morbidity usually occur at the forearm and the spine but the most severe consequences take place in patients with osteoporosis that occur at hip fracture which is related to the increase in mortality (15–20%), but