

UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

**KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDE AND
PRACTICE (KAP) OF MALAYSIAN
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPISTS IN
MANAGING BEHAVIORAL ISSUES
OF CHILDREN WITH ATTENTION
DEFICIT HYPERACTIVE
DISORDER (ADHD)**

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Disertation submitted in partial fulfillment
of the requirements for the degree of
**Master of Occupational Therapy
(Developmental Disability)**

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AUTHOR'S DECLARATION

I declare that the work in this dissertation was carried out in accordance with the regulations of Universiti Teknologi MARA. It is original and is the results of my own work, unless otherwise indicated or acknowledged as referenced work. This thesis has not been submitted to any other academic institution or non-academic institution for any degree or qualification.

I, hereby, acknowledge that I have been supplied with the Academic Rules and Regulations for Post Graduate, Universiti Teknologi MARA, regulating the conduct of my study and research.

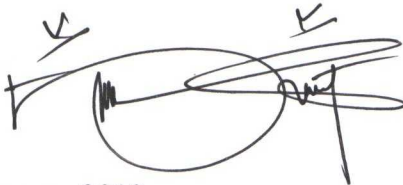
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ABSTRACT

Introduction: The management of children with ADHD requires the Malaysian occupational therapist to be well equipped with knowledge, attitude and practices of effective intervention. The purpose of this study is to determine the level of KAP among occupational therapist in managing behavioural issues of children with ADHD. **Method:** A cross-sectional method and quantitative approach were used in this study to discover all the four main objectives. Sets of questionnaires reflecting on these issues were sent to Malaysian Occupational Therapist by using Google Form platform. However, there were only $n = 137$ participants who had agreed to take part in this study based on inclusion and exclusion criteria. The survey questionnaire is *Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices (KAP)* that adapted from the previous study done by Oh, Kim, & Kim (2008) with the Cronbach alpha is .794 indicates a high level of internal consistency. Mann-Whitney U test and Kruskal Wallis was used to the differences between variables. Spearman Correlation was used to explore the strength of KAP. Regression used to predict the best KAP among Malaysian occupational Therapist. **Result:** Moderate level of Knowledge in managing ADHD whereby 66.82% answered correctly of ADHD, positive attitude toward management and highly confident in practices when applying clinical practices. There was a significant correlation between Practices and age group ($r = 0.328$), Practices and working experiences as OT ($r = 0.268$), same goes knowledge and Practices with working experiences in pediatric setting ($r = 0.342$). However, there is no significant correlation between KAP with Gender, Educational level, working setting and frequency involvement in the management of ADHD children. The Spearman rho indicates that low correlation between knowledge and practices ($r = 0.32$) and positive correlation between attitude and practices ($r = 0.24$). The results of the regression indicated that both predictors contributed a significant positive linear relationship to the model where the level of knowledge ($P = 0.001$) and level of attitude is ($P = 0.002$). 14.4% of the variation in the level of practices is explained by the level of knowledge and level of attitudes according to the multiple linear regression model ($R^2 = 0.144$). **Conclusion:** Although most occupational therapists in this survey agreed that the behavioural management of children with ADHD is important in the profession of occupational therapy there are still many issues that need to be concerned and resolved regarding the therapist's knowledge, attitude and practices among Malaysian occupational therapist.

Keyword: *Occupational therapy, Attention deficit hyperactive disorder, knowledge attitude practices (KAP)*

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TABLE OF CONTENT

| | Page |
|--|-------------|
| CONFIRMATION BY PANEL OF EXAMINERS | ii |
| AUTHOR'S DECLARATION | iii |
| ABSTRACT | iv |
| ACKNOWLEDGEMENT | v |
| TABLE OF CONTENT | vi |
| LIST OF TABLES | ix |
| LIST OF SYMBOLS | xi |
| LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS | xii |
| | |
| CHAPTER ONE : INTRODUCTION | |
| 1.1 Research Background | 1 |
| 1.2 Problem Statement | 5 |
| 1.3 Research Objectives | 6 |
| 1.3.1 General Objectives | 6 |
| 1.3.2 Specific Objectives | 6 |
| 1.4 Research Questions | 7 |
| 1.5 Hypothesis of Study | 7 |
| 1.6 Scope of Study | 8 |
| 1.7 Significance of Study | 8 |
| 1.8 Definition of Terms | |
| 1.8.1 Occupational Therapy | 9 |
| 1.8.2 Behaviour | 9 |
| 1.8.3 Knowledges | 9 |
| 1.8.4 Attitude | 9 |
| 1.8.5 Practices | 10 |
| 1.8.6 Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorder | 10 |