

UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

**THE PRESCRIBING PATTERN OF OBSTRUCTIVE
AIRWAY DISEASE MEDICINES IN OUTPATIENT
PHARMACY DEPARTMENT, HOSPITAL TENGKU
AMPUAN RAHIMAH KLANG**

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ABSTRACT

COPD is one of the leading causes of death world wide, with an increasing prevalence and mortality. Asthma is also worldwide public health problem affecting about 300 million people. The main objective of this study was to describe trends or patterns in the consumption of drugs for the treatment of Obstructive Airway Disease (OAD). The retrospective study was conducted in outpatient pharmacy department (OPD), Hospital Tengku Ampuan Rahimah (HTAR), Klang. The data were collected for 3 relative months, which were May, June and August. All data collected were analyzed using Microsoft Excel programs and SPSS software (Version 12.0). Prescription of drugs for OAD in the OPD HTAR increased between May and June 2008, but slightly decreased in August 2008. In HTAR, the used of combined inhaler of long acting β_2 -adrenergic agonists with corticosteroids and other combinations was relatively small in number. The number of patients treated with short-acting β_2 -agonists decreased slightly from May to June. The consumption percentage of xanthines such as theophyllin were very small, (0.15%). The trends or pattern in the consumption of drugs for the treatment of OAD in HTAR for three selective months were relatively similar.

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of study

Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) is one of the leading causes of death world wide, with an increasing prevalence and mortality. It is the fourth or fifth highest cause of death in developed countries. In Malaysia, the prevalence of smoking is 47% in the adult male population and 3% in the adult female population who smoke. The increase of tobacco consumption is the major cause of COPD, in alignment with growing population of COPD patients (Liam, 2002). COPD has important socio-economic implications on the quality of life of the patients and imposes a major burden on our health care system. The World Health Organization (WHO) and the National Heart Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI) of the United States have also started the Global Initiative for Obstructive Lung Disease (GOLD) project. This project is related to the global programmed on asthma, Global Initiative for Asthma (GINA), which aims to develop guidelines for the management of both COPD and asthma.

Besides COPD, asthma is also one of the worldwide public health problems affecting about 300 million people. Most of the asthmatic patients are from the developing