

UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA (UiTM)

**EVALUATION OF SELF-MEDICATION PRACTICE AMONG
UITM PUNCAK ALAM STUDENTS**

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ABSTRACT

Nowadays the trend in self-medication with non-prescription drug are increasing among the public. The practice of self medication also is thought to be related with the medical knowledge that the person have. The study was done in order to find out the prevalence of self medication, the indications, main reasons as well as to evaluate the level of knowledge on self medication among UiTM Puncak Alam students. Randomly selected students from different type of faculty were chosen as targeted respondents. Statistical analysis of Chi-Square test was used to analyze the data and significance was set at p of less than 0.05. The result showed that the prevalence of self medication was high with 92.5% of the students did self medication. The main indications for self medication among the respondents were fever and miscellaneous pain. Meanwhile majority of respondents agree that they did self medication because they don't want to burden their physician because their problem is not important and also because of long waiting time during visiting their physician. The students from different type of faculty showed that they have almost similar level of knowledge of self medication and further analysis revealed there was no relationship between level of knowledge of self medication and type of faculty. Thus, it can be concluded that the prevalence and knowledge level of self medication have no relationship with different type of faculty.

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

In the modern era of medical practice, there has been an increasing trend in self-medication with non-prescription drug. World Medical Association(WMA) state that self medication is the use of a registered or monographed medicine legally available without a physician's prescription, either on an individual's own initiative or following advice of a healthcare professional. Meanwhile, according to Pharmaceutical Association of Malaysia, self-medication is the treatment of common health problem with medicines especially designed and labeled for use without medical supervision and approved as safe and effective for such use. The practice of self-medication must be based on authentic medical information otherwise irrational use of drugs can cause wastage of resources, increased resistance of pathogens, and can lead to serious health hazards such as adverse drug reaction and prolonged morbidity. Moreover, currently, there is a worldwide concern about the emergence of antibiotic resistant strains of micro-organisms which might have been highly augmented by self-medication.