

UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

KNOWLEDGE AND AWARENESS OF BREAST
CANCER AMONG UNDEGRADUATE STUDENTS OF
FACULTY OF PHARMACY, UNIVERSITI
TEKNOLOGI MARA (UiTM) PUNCAK ALAM

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ABSTRACT

Cancer is a type of disease that act on cell and cause the cell to grow abnormally. Breast cancer is the primary causes of death of women worldwide. This study was done to identify the knowledge and awareness of breast cancer among faculty pharmacy students in Uitm Puncak Alam. A cross sectional study has been done involved 264 respondents. Data was collected by using self-administered questionnaire which includes questions on demographic data, awareness and knowledge of breast cancer. In this study, data were analysed by using Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS) version 17 which include descriptive analysis and chi square test was used. Data analysis revealed that the respondents were females 67.3 % and males 33.7 % with range of ages from 19-21 years old 47.7 %, 22-24 years old 47.7 % and more than 25 years old 4.5 % . Out of 264 respondents, majority 262 know about breast cancer and indicated media (television, radio and internet) as sources of information with 88.6 %. However, majority of students do not kow the age to start practising breast self-examination and mammography. While for knowledge of breast cancer, most of respondents know about symptoms, breast cancer examination, risk factors and how to prevent breast cancer. This showed that students have knowledge about breast cancer but moderate awareness on breast cancer.

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Cancer is a type of disease that act on cell and cause the cell to grow abnormally. Cancer cell start from the lump or mass which is call as tumor and it can be either benign or carcinoma. The cancer is name base on where the cell starts from such as lung cancer, breast cancer, stomach cancer, cervix cancer and other. Breast cancer is the primary causes of death of women worldwide (Maznah Dahlui 2011). In 2013, WHO approximately estimated that 232 340 new cases of invasive breast cancer diagnosed and 64, 640 new cases diagnose for non- invasive breast cancer in women in the United States (WHO, 2013). In United States, for every three minutes, one woman diagnosed with breast cancer (American Cancer Society, 2013).

The age standardized rates of 99.4 per 100,000 populations for North America is the highest incidence rate. Eastern Europe, South America, Southern Africa, and western Asia are modest incidence rates. While African countries has low cases of incidence (Maznah Dahlui 2011). The breast cancer incidence is increasing worldwide but not for the mortality rate for high income countries (Bray 2002). This is because of people