

UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA
KAMPUS BERTAM
MAY 2009

FACULTY OF PHARMACY



STUDY ON THE AWARENESS OF
PHARMACY STAFF IN HOSPITAL RAJA
PERMAISURI BAINUN IPOH TOWARDS
SMOKING ISSUE

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

First and foremost, praise to the Almighty because we finally manage to finish our final year project on time. Here, we would like take the opportunity to thank the many people who have helped to make this study possible. We are deeply grateful to them for the time and effort they have spent helping us along this study.

Our special thanks to our supervisor, Mr. Ng Moon Art for his continued encouragement, support and assistance. Without him, it would not have been possible to aside the time to finish this project.

Thanks are also expressed to our preceptor, Mr. Zakaria B. Yusoff for his guidance and timely support throughout the preparation of this project. Beside that, we would also like to thank Mr. Mohd Nor Faiz B. Zaman, the Pharmacist Assistant for all his helps and ideas.

Not forgotten, also thanks to our visiting lecturers for their information and guidance. Professional guidance is always necessary. It was provided by them and makes our works much easier.

Last but not least, thank you for all the respondents for their cooperation. May God bless all of them.

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ABSTRACT

BACKGROUND

Smoking is the single largest preventable cause of disease and premature death. As we know, smoking can cause a lot of diseases such as heart disease, chronic bronchitis disease, stroke and so on. We therefore assessed the pharmacy staffs itself who face many patients with these types of diseases almost everyday whether they aware or not about this smoking-related issue.

METHODS

We randomly assigned 58 pharmacy staffs which include Pharmacists, Pharmacist Assistants, Pharmacist Assistant Trainees, and also Attendants. We collected the data by using a survey questionnaire form. The respondents had been asked for their opinions about some issues related to smoking.

RESULTS

Most of the respondents said that the most cause of death before the age of 50 in Malaysia is road accident (48.3%). But, the gap between those who said road accident and smoking was only four persons. Respondents' level of education more and less affect the answer. Compare to males, females were more mind if smokers smoke near to them. For both gender, the reasons why did they mind was mostly due to it is bad for their health. 56% of the respondents said the main factor that leads someone to smoke was they were influenced by their friends and also by their family members. Most of the respondents were strongly agreed on the restriction of smoking in working area. Most of them also said that smoking among healthcare professionals will promote unhealthy lifestyle without they realize it.

CONCLUSION

Generally, most of the respondents were well aware about the smoking issues. They were aware on the effect of smoking on their health that can lead to death.

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

In Malaysia, smoking has been reported to be linked with 90% of lung cancer, 75% of chronic obstructive airway disease, and 25% of cardiovascular disease. It is the cause of 1 of every 5 deaths in Malaysia and about 10,000 Malaysians die annually due to smoking (Zaheer-Ud-Din et al, 2007).

So, this study was aimed to know the level of awareness among pharmacy staff itself regarding this smoking-related issue. We want to know how deep they were aware about the danger of smoking, their responds towards smokers, their opinions about the government's laws such as restriction of smoking in working area, opinions on smoking among healthcare practitioners itself and so on.