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FOOD POISONING CASES IN MALAYSIA: AN OVERVIEW

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ABSTRACT

Recently, a major problem among people in the foodservice industry involved the issue of food poisoning. Food poisoning becomes more serious among people especially for them in foodservice industry. Food poisoning can be considered as an illness from consuming food that contains a harmful substances, harmful microorganism, or toxics. In addition, it is mainly caused by consumption of contaminated food or drink with living bacteria, their toxins, or inorganic chemical substances and poison that derived from any plants or animals. The cases of food poisoning have given many bad effects on people; and the problem will become more severe if there is no specific ways to decrease it. Apart from that, the cases will be more serious when there are deaths, where the people not only get food-related disease. Thus, this shows that the food poisoning issue is very crucial to be highlighted inthe foodservice industry, especially in school canteen or hostel canteen. The aim of this study is to identify the food poisoning risk factor in most cases in Malaysia. This study also identifies the methods in decreasing food poisoning cases in Malaysia. This study is conducted by using content analysis where the researchershave gathered data from previous researches. For the overall results, temperature abuse, personal hygiene, and bacteria (*Salmonella*) have been identified as the main factors of food poisoning occurrences in Malaysian setting. The researcherssuggested that all food handlers should aware of cleanliness because the number of cases has increased every year caused by their carelessness. To answer the second objective, there are some suggestions on the methods to decrease food poisoning, which are the food handler need to attend the course of food handling, on-going inspection from Ministry of Health, enforcing the compound feeon food handler who did not follow the regulation of food preparing, organising competition such as *PertandinganKantinBersih, SelamatdanSihat*, revoke the business license, good hygiene, keeping the canteen clean, and defrosting food properly.