

UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

**THE PREVALENCE OF VISUAL
IMPAIRMENT AMONG CHILDREN WITH
DISABILITY**

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requirements for the degree of**

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AUTHOR'S DECLARATION

I declare that the work in this proposal is considerably my own, and to the extent that any part of this work is not my own, I have indicated that it is not mine by fully acknowledgement in accordance with the standard referring practices of the discipline.

I, hereby, acknowledge that I have been supplied with the Academic Rules and Regulations for undergraduate Universiti Teknologi Mara (UiTM) regulating the conduct of my study and research.

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ABSTRACT

THE PREVALENCE OF VISUAL IMPAIRMENT AMONG CHILDREN WITH DISABILITY

Purpose: Visual impairment was reported to be common among children with disability and could significantly impair the independence in quality of life. The objectives of this study were to determine the prevalence of visual impairment and its relationship between demographic data, visual acuity and refractive error among disability children.

Method: A total of 27 clinical records of eye examination from year 2012 to 2015 among disability children (12 boys and 15 girls) at community based centre in Selangor aged one to 18 years old were reviewed.

Results: The mean age of disability children was 9.85 ± 4.55 years. It showed that 42.31% of the disability children had insignificant refractive error, whereby 34.61% were hyperopia and 23.1% were myopia. The overall prevalence of visual impairment among disability children was 25.93% with boys had higher prevalence of visual impairment (17.81%) than girls (7.41%). There was a strong positive linear relationship between visual acuity and visual impairment ($r=0.80$, $p=0.01$), meanwhile age ($r=-0.22$, $p=0.36$), gender ($r=-0.32$, $p=0.10$), types of disability ($r=-0.37$, $p=0.07$) and refractive error ($r=-0.05$, $p=0.80$) were poorly correlated with visual impairment.

Conclusion: The outcomes of this study provide a profile on visual impairment status among disability children. The prevalence of visual impairment among children with disability was high. The visual acuity was revealed to be strongest variable that correlated with visual impairment among children with disability. Thus, this profile could help the clinician to be better prepared when dealing with children with any types of disability and also early detection of any visual disorder.

TABLE OF CONTENT

AUTHOR'S DECLARATION	ii
SUPERVISOR SIGNATURE	iii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	iv
TABLE OF CONTENT	v
LIST OF FIGURES	vii
LIST OF TABLES	viii
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	ix
ABSTRACT	x
ABSTRAK	xi
CHAPTER 1 : INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Background	1
1.2 Problem statement	2
1.3 Research question	3
1.4 Objectives of the study	3
1.5 Rationale of the study	3
CHAPTER 2 : LITERATURE REVIEW	5
2.1 Children with Disability	5
2.2 Children with Disability in Malaysia	6
2.3 Challenges Faced by People with Disabilities	7
2.4 Global Magnitude of Visual Impairment and Blindness	8
2.5 Prevalence of Visual Impairment among Children in Malaysia	9
2.6 Prevalence of Visual Impairment among Children with Disability	11
2.7 Relationship of Demographic with Visual Impairment and Disability	13
CHAPTER 3 : MATERIALS AND METHODS	16
3.1 Study Design	16

3.2	Sampling	16
3.3	Study Procedure	16
3.4	Statistical Methods	18
CHAPTER 4 : RESULTS		19
4.1	Demographic Data	19
4.1.1	Age and gender distribution of disability children	19
4.1.2	Distribution of children by types of disability, gender and age	20
4.2	Prevalence of Visual Impairment among Children with Disability	21
4.3	Association between Demographic Data, Visual Acuity, Refractive Error and Visual Impairment	22
4.3.1	Association between demographic data and visual impairment	22
4.3.2	Association between visual acuity and visual impairment	23
4.3.3	Association between refractive error and visual impairment	23
CHAPTER 5 : DISCUSSION		25
5.1	Prevalence of Visual Impairment among Children with Disability	25
5.2	Association between Demographic Data, Visual Acuity, Refractive Error and Prevalence of Visual Impairment among Children with Disability	27
CHAPTER 6 : CONCLUSION		29
6.1	Conclusion	29
6.2	Limitation	29
6.3	Recommendation	29
REFERENCES		31
APPENDIX		35
APPENDIX A Intellectual Properties		36