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A Study on The Psychological Distress in Patients for Screening and Recalled Mammography Examinations in Selayang Hospital.

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Bachelor (Hons) of Medical Imaging

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DECLARATION

I declare that the work in this dissertation was carried out in accordance with the regulations of Universiti Teknologi MARA. It is original and is the result of my own work, unless otherwise indicated or acknowledge as referenced work. This thesis has not been submitted to any other academic institution or non-academic institution for any degree or qualification.

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ABSTRACT

Breast cancer is the most common types of cancer in women around the world including Malaysia. About one in 19 women in Malaysia are at risk, compared to one in eight in Europe and the United States (Wahid, 2012). Nowadays, screening programme for breast cancer has been organized widely around Malaysia either by a non-government or government organizations. Concerns regarding the effects of psychological distress and anxiety have been arising among patients who had undergo mammography examinations for screening and recalled examinations. Psychological effects may include anxiety, worrying about having the cancer and depression while following the examinations (Schou Bredal et al., 2013). The problems regarding the psychological effects bring a huge impact on patients to come for the mammography examinations. Thus, a study is conducted to determine a specific level of psychological distress in mammography patients for both screening and follow-up examinations. This research aim is to study the level of anxiety and depression for mammography examinations and to document the willingness of patients to come for their mammography examinations and recommend this examination to other women. specifically studies on mammography patients in X-Ray Department of Selayang Hospital, Selangor, Malysia. This study is based on the data obtained from a questionnaire constructed from the Hospital Anxiety and Depression Scale (HADS) and the Life-Orientation Test Revised (LOT-R) and distributed to patients for mammography examinations. Then, the data collected was transferred and analyzed in SPSS data statistic software for evaluation. The research suggested that the anxiety and depression level of women who came for mammography examinations is managed well and contribute to the improvement in awareness about the breast cancer and the importance of mammogram examinations in detecting breast abnormality especially for women ages 40 - 70 years old. It is hope that the study can contribute to the improvement of anxiety and depression management to encourage women to adhere with mammography examination annually scheduled.

CHAPTER ONE INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of Study

The awareness about breast cancer in Malaysia has been increasing. About one in 19 women in Malaysia are at risk of having breast cancer, compared to one in eight in the Europe and the United States (Wahid, 2012). Breast cancer has been classified as the most common types of cancer in women around the world. Mammogram is an examination of breast tissue using a very low energy of X-ray usually uses for screening. diagnostic or intervention procedures. In mammography examinations, there are usually patients coming for three purposes. It is either for screening examination, follow-up examinations or interventions procedures. For screening mammography examinations, women usually came for their first time or for yearly scheduled examinations (surveillance). Besides that, women who came for a follow-up examination are usually who had come for their first mammography examination and there is some abnormal appearance on the images. So they are required to come for another examination to keep in track with the progress of the abnormality. The number of screening programme is increasing in Malaysia. It is either organized by the government sector such Ministry of Health or the non-government organization such as National Cancer Society (MAKNA). This study was conducted specifically at the mammography room of X-Ray Department, Selayang Hospital for 6 weeks. About 100 respondents are willingly participated in this study, 50 respondents are for screening and another 50 respondents for recalled mammography examinations

1.2 Problem Statement

Concerns regarding the effects of psychological distress and anxiety have been arising among patients who undergo mammography examinations for screening and recalled examinations. Psychological effects may include anxiety, worrying about having