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**THE AWARENESS OF PROSTAR PROGRAMME AMONG
MEMBERS**

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ABSTRACT

This study was done to observe the awareness of PROSTAR members towards the impact of the programme and the level of awareness. The approach of the PROSTAR take to implement the programme is different from time to time and according to the current issue. Even though the approaches is different, it still based on the guidelines which was given by the Ministry of Health, this is to make sure the approaches is align with the objective of PROSTAR. The objectives of this study include identifying the member's level of awareness toward PROSTAR programme, the impact of the programme, observe the level of exposure of members to the information on HIV/AIDS and to determine the influence of gender on the level of awareness on PROSTAR programme. This study also recommends some alternatives on how to increase the level of awareness of members towards PROSTAR programme of HIV/AIDS.

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

HIV/AIDS is one of the deadliest diseases in the world that do not have any cure yet. According to AVERT, an international charity dedicated to AIDS, the first HIV case was officially recorded in Soviet Union and a massive HIV test was conducted there in 1987. In 1987, the World Health Organization (WHO) had notified of 43,880 cases in 91 countries.

In the two decades since the first HIV/AIDS case was reported in Malaysia, the number of new cases has risen exponentially. Roughly the end of 2004 reported 64,000 Malaysians reported as infected with HIV, of whom some 9,400 had developed AIDS. The majority of reported AIDS cases and HIV infections contracted were through injecting drug use. However another 12 per cent were categorized under heterosexual activity and just 1 per cent under homosexual or bisexual behaviors. According to UNAIDS, a 5.3 per cent increase in the proportion of antenatal women screened in 2002 compared to 2001, the number of HIV-infected women detected almost doubled from 79 to 141 cases among those screened under the Mother-to-Child Transmission (MTCT). The almost 80 per cent increase in 2002 from the previous year is cause for concern.