

**EFFECTS OF TRAINING ON PERCEPTION, PERCEIVED CONFIDENCE AND ABILITY IN PROVIDING SMOKING CESSATION SERVICE BY COMMUNITY PHARMACISTS IN MALAYSIA:
A STUDY ON LOCAL NATIONAL CHAIN PHARMACY**

ABSTRACT

Smoking cessation service is one of community pharmacy role in reducing the smoking epidemic. Training will help to improve and increase the smoking cessation service provided by community pharmacists. This study aim to evaluate the effectiveness of training on perception, perceived confidence level and perceived ability of community pharmacists in providing smoking cessation service. This intervention study involved 60 community pharmacists working in local national chain pharmacy. They were invited to attend a 3 hour training session and fill in questionnaires before and after the training. The training significantly improve positive perception about smoking cessation (Mean score = 3.87 ± 0.46 pre training versus mean score = 4.00 ± 0.42 post training; $p < 0.05$). The training reduce the negative perception about smoking cessation (Mean score = 2.91 ± 0.55 pre training versus mean score = 2.78 ± 0.62 post training; $p = 0.05$). The training significantly improve perceived confidence (Mean score = 2.96 ± 0.48 pre training versus mean score = 3.44 ± 0.44 post training; $p < 0.001$) and perceived ability (Mean score = 2.85 ± 0.69 pre training versus mean score = 3.28 ± 0.64 post training; $p < 0.001$) of the respondent pharmacists in providing smoking cessation service. The training conducted was effective in changing the perception, perceived confidence and perceived ability of the community pharmacist working in national local chain pharmacy in providing smoking cessation service.