

BARRIERS TOWARDS ORGAN DONATION AMONG HEALTH CARE WORKERS IN KOTA KINABALU, SABAH.

ABSTRACT

This study is a qualitative study conducted to identify the level of awareness, attitudes, and barriers towards organ donation among health care workers in district of Kota Kinabalu, Sabah. 28 respondents were selected randomly using Purposive Sampling to participate in Focus Group Discussion (FGD) and they were probed using the Interview Guide. Respondents were health care workers from various positions in health clinic in district Kota Kinabalu, Sabah. Results showed that the respondents' age proportion is 35 years. Most of the respondents are Bajau and Dusun ethnic, and mostly Muslim. Majority of them has been worked less than 10 years and they were nurses and medical assistants. Current study found that among the barriers to become an organ donor is; less exposure in organ donation, lack of knowledge about organ donation, family disapproval, perceived barriers of religion, perceptions of fear, health risks, as well as the myth of cultural beliefs, traditions and perceptions. Although there were exposed to this program, but majority of them do not have specific knowledge about organ donation. Finding found that both groups gender support the concept of organ donation and expressed their willingness to donate organs to immediate family members in future. Length of service and gender found not influenced the respondent's intention to be an organ donor. Thus, intervention should be arranged to provide skills and training to health care workers through courses, seminars and workshops related organ donation. It is a must do task as they were front liner who is responsible to promote organ donation program to the community. Solid cooperation between JKNS with NGOs, educational institutions, religious personalities and private agencies is important to address this issue. Current study suggests that a qualitative research in health care worker should be forwarded to implement in health clinics in other districts in Sabah to identify the obstacles barriers to organ donation.