

## **LEPTOSPIROSIS PREVENTION PRACTICES AMONG COMMUNITY IN PANJI DISTRICT, KOTA BHARU, KELANTAN**

### **ABSTRACT**

Leptospirosis is the most widespread zoonosis worldwide that can be infected through occupational, recreational or direct contact with contaminated animal urine. This cross-sectional study was conducted to assess the level of awareness about Leptospirosis infection practices among the population in Panji District, Kota Bharu, Kelantan. The sampling was carried out using multistage random sampling method. A total of 186 houses was selected randomly at the site of either with cases or without cases to represent respondents. A total of 174 respondents were participated in this study with a response rate of 93.5%. Demographic data, knowledge, attitudes and practices for the prevention of Leptospirosis were collected by face to face interviews using a questionnaire. The results showed that the level of knowledge was moderate in both locations. However, there were 6.3% of respondents who had never heard of Leptospirosis. The attitude towards Leptospirosis prevention practice was significantly different between the locations. However, the level of practice towards Leptospirosis in both locations was similar, which was not satisfactory. This study showed that there was a high risk of getting Leptospirosis infection when the self-management, wound management and good environmental practices were low. In conclusion, health education intervention program on Leptospirosis should be conducted in order to improve people's knowledge and translating them towards practices in Leptospirosis prevention.