

DENGUE PREVENTION AND CONTROL AMONG COMMUNITY AT PPR SRI PANTAI, WP KUALA LUMPUR

ABSTRACT

The World Health Organization (WHO) classifies dengue as an important disease in public health. Epidemiology and ecology of dengue infection were related to knowledge, human behavior and activity. This study aimed to investigate the perception of PPR Sri Pantai's community against the practice of prevention and control of dengue by sub components Health Belief Model (*HBM*). This cross-sectional study was conducted by in person interview using questionnaires. The convenience sampling method was used involving 333 respondents with a response rate of 94%. The finding showed that totals of 31.6% of respondents have moderate (28.2%) and low (3.3%) knowledge about dengue fever. The majority of respondents have a positive perception towards Perceived Susceptibility (75.1%), Perceived Severity (91.3%), Perceived Benefit (94.3%), Perceived Barrier (63.7%), Cue to Action (85.9%) and Self-Efficacy (86.2%). The finding showed there was a significant difference between knowledge of dengue with gender, races and education level. For the comparison between HBM's components and gender, there were significant association in Perceived Severity, Perceived benefit, Perceived Barrier and Self-Efficacy. For the comparison between HBM's components and races, there were significant association between in Perceived Susceptibility, Perceived Severity, Perceived Benefit, Perceived Barrier and Self-Efficacy, while for the comparison between HBM's components and education level, there was a significant association in Cues to Action. In conclusion, the study found that community of PPR Sri Pantai had high knowledge (68.5%) about dengue. However, higher knowledge does not necessarily lead to better prevention of dengue awareness and practice. Perceptions of respondents especially from the perspectives of Perceived Susceptibility and Perceived Benefit must be strengthen in order to encourage communities' awareness and behavioral change towards the dengue prevention and control. Therefore, health education intervention's project should emphasize more on the awareness towards enhancing the effective behavioral change for dengue's prevention and control among communities from the perspective of Perceived Susceptibility and Perceived Barrier.