

**VARIOUS FACTOR FOR SUSTAINABILITY OF COMMUNICATION
FOR BEHAVIORAL IMPACT (COMBI) IN CONTROLLING
DENGUE FEVER AT HULU LANGAT DISTRICT**

ABSTRACT

The dengue problem is seemingly unstoppable despite much effort in the dengue preventions and control programme taken by the government. One such effort is to establish in the community members COMBI team to address the issue of dengue fever. Unfortunately, the team cannot be sustained. Therefore, a study was conducted to identify the various factors in sustaining COMBI for the dengue control. Key issue is how COMBI can achieve long-term sustainability to remain relevant as a community intervention. The research methodology was qualitative deploying In-Depth Interview approach. Eight respondents involved in this study consisted of six COMBI chairmen in the selected district and two employees of Hulu Langat District Health Office. Through in-depth interviews, the respondents shared their knowledge, experiences and opinions regarding the COMBI programme. The results showed that the critical factors for sustaining COMBI in order of importance are the quality leadership of COMBI Chairman, the allocation budget, recognition to COMBI, member sense of community ownership for the COMBI team, COMBI publicity to the community and continuous training to COMBI teams. Among the issues that arise during the implementation of COMBI by health officials is that community involvement is limited to what they were given. There was also an issue when there is no support from the authorities causing COMBI to be neglected. This finding is expected to help Ministry of Health and local authorities to improve the involvement of the community to implement the COMBI program more effectively.