

# Knowledge and perception towards vape among medical students of UniKL RCMP

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## ABSTRACT

**Introduction:** Vaping has recently become a public trend, due to its growing popularity through younger generations. Vaping is characterized as vapor or aerosol inhalation that can contain either nicotine or none via an electronic device such as e-cigarette. **Objective:** To explore the knowledge and perception towards vape among medical students of UniKL RCMP. **Materials and methods:** It was a cross sectional study conducted in UniKL RCMP, a university located in Greentown, Ipoh, Perak Darul Ridzuan, with a total of 589 medical students. Our sample size was 233 as calculated by Open Epi with 95% confidence interval. Total 268 respondents were participated in this research and the data were collected with systematic random sampling method. The raw data were inserted into Epi-info and Microsoft Excel software for data sorting and transferred to SPSS programme V.24. **Results and conclusion:** The majority of respondent had good knowledge and perception with the percentage of 83.58% (n=224) and 75.37% (n=202). Only 16.42% (n=44) and 24.63% (n=66) had poor knowledge and perception towards vape. The year of study, age category, gender, ethnicity, family history of vaping, smoking status, vaping status and duration of vaping, showed that the association between knowledge level and sociodemographic level factors were not significant. Gender (0.001), smoking status (0.003), vaping status (0.000) and duration of vaping (0.000), all had P value less than 0.05 which were statistically significant as it showed the association between perception level and sociodemographic factors. The respondents' knowledge level and perception towards vape directly correlate with each other as it was statistically significant with a *p* value (0.000). It can be concluded that there was correlation between knowledge and perception toward vape among medical students of UniKL RCMP.