

Knowledge, attitude, and prevention of leptospirosis among preclinical medical students in Universiti Kuala Lumpur Royal College of Medicine Perak

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: Leptospirosis is a disease of epidemic potential, especially after heavy rainfall or flooding. In recent years, an increase in the incidence of human leptospirosis in Malaysia has been observed to coincide with severe flooding in some major states, including Kelantan and Selangor. **Aim:** The aim of this study was to analyse the knowledge, attitude, and preventive measures of Leptospirosis among preclinical medical student of Universiti Kuala Lumpur, Royal College of Medicine Perak (UniKL RCMP). **Materials and methods:** A cross-sectional survey was conducted among Year 1 and 2 pre-clinical MBBS students. The participants were randomly selected to participate in this study and were required to answer the questionnaire on Google™ Forms platform. The responses were recorded as 'Yes' and 'No'; and a mean score was used to classify the respondents into two groups; good and poor respectively. **Results and conclusion:** In total 154 preclinical students had participated in this study. The study had found that only 55.2% of the respondents had good knowledge and 52.6% of respondents had good attitude towards leptospirosis. However, majority of them (64.9%) had poor practice towards the prevention of leptospirosis. Even though good knowledge will lead to better attitude and prevention, this was not observed in this study. Inadequacy in preventive practice indicated the need to increase the knowledge among the respondents through continuous education.

Keywords: Knowledge, Attitude, Practice, Leptospirosis, UniKL RCMP