

Practice of Disciplinary Methods and Factors Associated with Belief for Physical Punishment Among Malaysian Parents

Shubash Shander Ganapathy, Rajini Sooryanarayana, Nik Mazlina Mohammad, Rosliza Abdul Manaf, Azriman Rosman

Institute for Public Health, National Institutes of Health, Ministry of Health Malaysia, Malaysia, Kelana Jaya Health Clinic, Selangor Health Department, Ministry of Health Malaysia, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, Universiti Putra Malaysia, Disease Control Division, Ministry of Health Malaysia

ABSTRACT

INTRODUCTION: A topic often highly debated has been the use of violent punishments towards children. An important predictor for the use of violent punishment by parents is the belief in its effectiveness. The objectives of this study were to describe the prevalence and factors associated with the belief for physical punishment among Malaysian parents towards children 1 to 5 years of age. **METHODS:** Two stage stratified random sampling design was used in this population-based survey carried out between February and May 2016 among Malaysian parents. The questions on disciplinary practices were adapted from the Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS) questionnaire. The respondents were also asked if they believed that physical punishment is needed to raise a child properly. Complex sample analysis was used for all analysis. **RESULTS:** Almost 60.0% of parents believed in the need for physical punishment, with 54.3% parents admitted to practising it. Parents who believed in physical punishment had 2.6 times odds of practising it than those who did not. Parents with three or more children (OR 2.28; 95%CI: 1.34, 3.89) compared to those with one child, and households with less than RM1000 income compared to RM 5000 and above (OR 1.77; 95%CI: 1.24, 2.53) were significantly more likely to believe in using physical punishment on their children. **DISCUSSION:** There is a large number of parents who practise physical punishment despite not believing in the need for it. Parents need to be taught to respond positively to children's behaviour in difficult parenting situations.

KEYWORDS: NHMS, Physical punishment, Parental belief

Predictors of Hepatitis C Virus Infections Among People Who Injects Drug in Negeri Sembilan

Azline Abdilah, Sri Ganesh Muthiah

ABSTRACT

INTRODUCTION: Hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection is known among the major cause of morbidity and mortality globally. Persistent HCV infection is associated with major liver complications such as liver failure, liver cancer, and fatality. Estimated that 5.6 million people who inject drugs (PWID) were chronically infected with HCV globally. In Malaysia estimated that 59% of HCV infections were among PWID. The study is aimed to determine the prevalence of HCV infection and its predictors among PWID in Negeri Sembilan. **METHODS:** A cross-sectional study based on random proportion to size sampling was conducted among 212 out of 1414 registered Methadone Maintenance Therapy (MMT) clients with PWID attending health clinics in Negeri Sembilan from February 2018 to July 2018. Data were collected using a face-to-face interview with an administered questionnaire. Data were analysed using the Statistical Package of IBM SPSS Statistics Version 23 and p-value of <0.05 is considered significant. Independent T-test and Chi-square test (χ^2) was used to determine the associations between the variables, and multiple logistic regressions were used for predictors of HCV infection among PWID. **Result:** A total of 212 respondents were consented and managed to complete the questionnaires given. The prevalence of HCV infections among the respondents was 89%. The predictors of HCV were age (aOR 1.07, 95%CI: 1.032, 1.110) and higher frequency of injections (aOR 5.98, 95%CI: 3.110, 11.476). **Conclusion:** HCV prevalence is higher among PWID in Negeri Sembilan. Effective and efficient prevention and control activities should focus on the identified predictors.

KEYWORDS: Hepatitis C Virus, PWID, Prevalence, Predictors