

## Predisposing and Enabling Factors Influencing Private Outpatient Utilisation: Results from A Community Survey

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### ABSTRACT

**INTRODUCTION:** Public healthcare services are complemented by the private sector. However, information on key-drivers that influence the utilisation of private outpatient healthcare services is lacking. Thus, we aim to determine the factors that influence private outpatient healthcare services utilisation among Malaysia's population. **METHODS:** Secondary data analysis of 2015 National Health and Morbidity Survey with a representative sample of adults aged 18 and above who utilised outpatient healthcare services two weeks preceding the survey was conducted. Multivariable logistic regression was used to determine the associations of predisposing and enabling factors with private outpatient healthcare utilisation. Descriptive and complex sample logistic regression analyses were employed using STATA version 13.1. **RESULTS:** Among 1,808 respondents who sought outpatient care (representing 8.3%; 95%CI: 7.7, 8.9%, of the population), 42.1% (95%CI: 38.8, 45.5%) used private outpatient healthcare services. Population who preferred private sector for minor health conditions (OR 14.01; 95%CI: 10.21, 19.23), were single (OR 1.58; 95%CI: 1.11, 2.27), lived further than ten kilometres from public outpatient facilities (OR 5.18; 95%CI: 1.98, 14.7), were economically active (OR 1.74; 95%CI: 1.17, 2.58) and possess health insurance (OR 1.50; 95%CI: 1.03, 2.18) were more likely to utilise private outpatient healthcare services. Wealth quintile was not a significant predictor except for people from the second quintile. **DISCUSSION:** Identifying these potential influencing factors of private outpatient healthcare utilisation is timely. The findings will provide additional perspectives to policymakers for policy-planning and decision-making as the Ministry strives to develop a strong partnership between the public and private health sectors towards achieving universal health coverage and sustainable development goals.

**KEYWORDS:** outpatient utilisation, private sector, predisposing factors, enabling factors

## Premature Mortality in Malaysia, 2017

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### ABSTRACT

**INTRODUCTION:** Each year, non-communicable diseases (NCDs) are responsible for 71% of all death globally and approximately 44% of all NCDs deaths occurred before the age of 70. By reviewing premature mortality, we can evaluate the effectiveness of the healthcare system in our country. Therefore, this study was conducted to highlight the major causes of premature mortality in Malaysia in 2017. **METHODS:** The calculation of premature mortality in terms of Years of Life Lost (YLL) was based on the methods used in Global Burden of Disease (GBD) study. YLL is the mortality component determined by the age-sex specific number of deaths and life expectancy at death. Mortality data were obtained from the Department of Statistics Malaysia. **RESULTS:** In 2017, the total YLL contributed was 3,739,825 years with 60.3% contributed by males. YLL was contributed mostly by NCDs with 72.2%. The leading causes of premature mortality were Ischaemic Heart Diseases (16.5%), Cerebrovascular Diseases (Stroke) (11.5%), Road Traffic Injuries (8.7%), Lower Respiratory Infections (8.3%) and Diabetes Mellitus (5.5%). **DISCUSSION:** Reducing the burden of NCDs by focusing on management of NCDs such as disease prevention, early screening and treatment are crucial to reduce the burden of premature mortality in Malaysia.

**KEYWORDS:** Years of Life Lost (YLL), Premature Mortality, Deaths, Malaysia