

The awareness of immunization amongst pregnant ladies attending UiTM specialist clinic

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: Immunization is an important measure for preventing diseases and in extension, the complications associated with the disease. The administration of vaccine is important for children as well as for the expecting mothers. The awareness of the public especially the pregnant ladies regarding this matter is very important. **Objectives:** To study the awareness of pregnant ladies regarding immunization and its safety in pregnancy. **Methods:** 230 pregnant women aged 20 to 50 years old who attended the Specialist Clinic in Pusat Perubatan Universiti Teknologi MARA (PPUiTM) were interviewed using a validated questionnaire which comprises socio-demographic details, self-practice regarding immunization, and questions regarding vaccines for Rubella, Tetanus, Hepatitis B and Human papillomavirus. Collected data was analyzed for descriptive statistic. **Results:** Out of 230 respondents, 80.7% knew about vaccination and majority was in 30-39-year-old age group. They received information regarding the vaccines mostly from their doctors. 98% reported that they took vaccines themselves. More than 50% of the respondents had taken vaccine for Rubella, Tetanus and Hepatitis B. This was probably due to the National Immunization Programme which made these vaccines compulsory to be taken. However, 13% of them were unsure what vaccines they had received. When assessing their knowledge regarding specific vaccines like Rubella, Tetanus, Hepatitis B and Human papillomavirus, majority did not know the safety of these vaccines in pregnancy. **Conclusions:** Pregnant ladies should be educated more regarding immunization including the benefits and safety especially by the attending doctors to promote better understanding.

Vaginal bleeding in prepubertal girls – A case series review in Malaysia

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: The etiology of prepubertal vaginal bleeding varies from isolated pubertal causes to malignant tumours and cause significant anxiety in the girls and their caretakers. Hence, these cases require careful investigations. We describe 4 cases of prepubertal bleeding of varying causes managed at 3 different O&G centres; HCTM, Hospital Ampang and Sabah Women & Children's Hospital. **Case Description:** The girls were between 19 months to 7 years old and had vaginal bleeding. *Case 1:* A 6-year-old who underwent examination under anesthesia (EUA) and found to have multiple vaginal polyps. Polypectomy was performed. *Case 2:* A 6-year-old noted to have a doughnut-shaped mass protruding from her urethral meatus. She was treated with estrogen cream and sitz baths. *Case 3:* A child who had early breast development and pelvic ultrasound revealed a multiseptated ovarian cyst requiring a cystectomy. *Case 4:* A 19-month-old toddler with a large intravaginal mass. She required further investigation, referral to the pediatric surgeon and oncologist for treatment of a malignant yolk sac tumour. **Discussion:** Prepubertal bleeding is abnormal and requires prompt management. It is important to rule out sexual abuse and malignancy. EUA and vaginoscopy is recommended when imaging modality is inconclusive. It is less traumatic than a pelvic examination in the outpatient clinic for the young girls. Thorough targeted history taking and pediatric-specific gynecological examination skills are crucial to formulate accurate diagnosis and adequate management.