

Performance Measures and Factors Affecting Quality of Diabetes Care in Rembau

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: The quality of healthcare can be divided into a few categories according to the aspect of care being assessed. One of the assessments is performance measurement on particular healthcare processes or outcomes. The main purpose of this study was to analyse the performance achievement in providing diabetes care through an assessment of clinical outcomes and healthcare process in public health clinics in Rembau, Malaysia. The study is aimed to identify the potential factors within the organization that influence performance in providing diabetes care. **Method:** This study was conducted via the mixed methods approach. The first part was an analysis of the performance achievement in providing diabetes care which was conducted using the quantitative method through retrospective data review. The second part was the identification of the potential factors in the organization of the healthcare team that influence the performance of providing diabetes care and was conducted through the qualitative method through face-to-face structured interviews. **Results:** The performance was suboptimal and the achievements were varied between each care process with the lowest care performance on complex care processes including electrocardiogram (ECG), fundus and foot examination. The potential factors that influence the diabetes care performance are multifactorial and highly inter-related including lack of structured care specific for diabetes, inefficient appointment system, preference for paper-based practice, high workload and inadequate resources. **Conclusion:** The best measures to overcome these issues is by adopting Chronic Care Model to improve the overall quality of care as well as quality of life among diabetes patients.

Cross-sectional Study on Asthma Control Status of Children 6-11 years old Attending Paediatric Clinics in Ministry of Health (MOH) hospitals, Malaysia

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: Asthma is a common respiratory disease affecting 1-18% of the population in different countries and reported up to 24% among children in Malaysia. Assessment of asthma control and identifying the risk factors resulting in poor asthma outcomes are essential to achieve asthma management goals of symptom control and risk reduction. **Methods:** A cross-sectional study in 24 paediatric clinics in the Ministry of Health hospitals between 1st October 2020 until 31st January 2021 involving asthmatic children aged 6-11 years old and their parents. Asthma control status based on Global Initiative Asthma (GINA) guideline. **Results:** A total of 756 subjects enrolled. Mostly were males (56%), Malays (82.1%) and mean age of 100.6 months (SD 20.54 months). About 68% had well-controlled asthma, followed by 23.8% of partially controlled asthma and 7.9% of uncontrolled asthma. Poor medication adherence, high usage of short-acting beta-agonist, the coexistence of allergic rhinitis, and exposure to allergens were the risk factors contributing to suboptimal asthma control among children ($p < 0.005$). **Conclusion:** One-third of asthma control among children in Malaysia was suboptimal in nature. Many factors contributed to suboptimal level such as inadequate asthma treatment by clinicians and poor parents' responsibilities to ensure compliance to medication and allergens avoidance.