

# Internal Consistency Reliability of the Bahasa Malaysia Version of Patient Education Materials Assessment Tool

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## ABSTRACT

**Introduction:** The Patient Education Materials Assessment Tool (PEMAT) is an instrument to assess the understandability and actionability of patient education materials (PEMs). It has two versions: PEMAT-P for printable materials and PEMAT-A/V for audio-visual materials. This study aimed to determine internal consistency reliability of the Bahasa Malaysia version of PEMAT, designated as PEMAT-P(M) and PEMAT-A/V(M). **Methods:** This was a cross-sectional study involving nine health care workers from various health disciplines involved in the provision of patient education at the Ministry of Health Malaysia (MOH) health facilities as raters to evaluate 13 printable PEMs and 13 audio-visual PEMs using PEMAT-P(M) and PEMAT-A/V(M) respectively. Cronbach's alpha coefficient ( $\alpha$ ) was used to determine PEMAT(M)'s internal consistency reliability. **Results:** Internal consistency reliability of PEMAT(M) domains was high ( $\alpha > 0.70$ ) for most raters, except actionability domain for several raters. The corrected item-total correlations (CITC) were at least 0.20 for most items. Deletion of any item from PEMAT-P(M) and PEMAT-A/V(M) did not cause substantial increase of  $\alpha$  value of most items. Therefore, removal of any item from PEMAT-P(M) and PEMAT-A/V(M) was not indicated. **Conclusion:** Lower  $\alpha$  values ( $< 0.70$ ) actionability domain could be attributed to low number of actionability items in PEMAT-P(M) (7 items) and PEMAT-A/V(M) (4 items). Positive CITC of at least 0.20 indicated good correlation with other items in their respective domain, and most items correlated well with the total score and the scale overall. In conclusion, PEMAT-P(M) and PEMAT-A/V(M) demonstrated acceptable internal consistency reliability for measuring understandability and actionability of PEMs developed in Bahasa Malaysia.

# A surgical audit of acute appendicitis in Hospital Sultanah Nora Ismail (HSNI) Batu Pahat: Is the Retrocaecal appendix still the commonest position among Batu Pahat population?

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## ABSTRACT

**Introduction:** A surgical audit study among the population in Batu Pahat, Malaysia was conducted in determining the commonest position of appendix in post appendectomy. **Methods:** This was a retrospective study. A total of 204 cases of patients underwent an appendectomy admitted to the surgical ward from January 2017 until January 2018 at Hospital Sultanah Nora Ismail (HSNI) were audited retrospectively. **Results:** These findings showed different figures of ascendancy in gender among patients who underwent an appendectomy with females 58.8% and males 41.2%. The perforation rate was 40.7% and delay in diagnosis was found to be 19.1%. The perforated appendix had a significantly higher incidence in males with a correlation of p-value 0.04. Retrocaecal appendix (RA) remained the commonest position for patients who underwent an appendectomy with 26.9%. RA is associated with an increased incidence of perforation (p-value 0.01). **Conclusion:** The position of appendix in all patients who underwent an appendectomy in HSNI is parallel to the reports available globally in that it is retrocaecal followed by retroileal as the commonest position among residence of Batu Pahat.