

Assessment of patient's willingness to pay (WTP) for drugs for non-communicable diseases in Klinik Kesihatan Senawang

Sundraj Kamalini, Chandra Sejara Rao Hemah Devi, Mohamad Subri Nadia

Unit of Pharmacy, Senawang Health Clinic, Negeri Sembilan

ABSTRACT

Introduction: Willingness to pay (WTP) is defined, as the amount of money one is willing to spend for medical interventions for a better health outcome of disease conditions. The objectives of this study are to assess patients' willingness to pay (WTP) for drugs for non-communicable diseases in Klinik Kesihatan Senawang and determine its' influencing factors. **Methods:** A cross-sectional study design was used. The study instrument was translated to Malay and distributed to 383 participants fitting the inclusion criteria. **Results:** The majority of the patients (33.3%) were aged 54-59. Two hundred and four (52.3%) respondents were female. The majority of them were Malay (52.6 %) followed by Chinese (26.7%), Indian (17.7 %) and others (3.1%). Mostly (53.3%) answered that introducing health services based on the ability to pay was preferred. There is no association between gender and willingness to pay for drugs, as the p-value obtained is 0.498. No association was found between education level and WTP for drugs as the p-value is 0.522. Similarly, income and willingness showed no association as the p-value obtained is 0.120. A positive association between dependants and WTP was found, as the p-value obtained is 0.010 showing statistical significance. Furthermore, there is a positive association between disease severity and WTP for drugs as the p-value is 0.030. **Conclusion:** It is known that the ability to pay for NCD drugs in Klinik Kesihatan Senawang is in accordance with the type of services provided. Factors such as disease severity and number of dependants are positively associated with WTP.