

AWARENESS OF DIABETES MELLITUS AMONG PUBLIC ATTENDING THE PRIMARY HEALTH CENTRES IN MALAYSIA

(Kesedaran Diabetes Melitus dalam Kalangan Orang Ramai yang
Menghadiri Pusat-Pusat Kesihatan Utama di Malaysia)

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ABSTRACT

Diabetes is a steadily growing problem in Malaysia and the increase of diabetics' patients in Malaysia is worrisome. In relation to this, the purpose of this study is to test Diabetes Mellitus Awareness Model (DMAM) consisting of five constructs, namely knowledge, attitude, environment, symptom and diabetics awareness. This study develops the conceptual model for studying the factors among public in Malaysia in order to possibly increase the awareness towards the ailment. A total of ten hypotheses have been proposed to test the relationship in the hypothesised model between the five constructs under study. Structural equation modelling (SEM) with SmartPLS software using Partial Least Squares estimation (PLS) is used for modelling analysis. The study was conducted in two health clinics, namely Klinik Kesihatan Paya Besar and Klinik Kesihatan Padang Rumbia from 1 September 2015 to 15 October 2015. A total of 550 questionnaires were distributed and 523 questionnaires were successfully collected. From the results, it shows that knowledge on diabetics has a significant impact on a) environment, b) attitude and c) awareness towards diabetics. Next, the environment significantly influences the attitude, and attitude has a significant influence on the awareness. However, the results also show that there is no significant relationship between the environment towards awareness. In addition, both knowledge and environment has no significant effect towards symptoms of diabetes mellitus ailment. The finding also shows that the causal relationship of attitude on symptoms, and the relationship between symptom and awareness are not significant. In conclusion, the healthcare authorities may refer to DMAM as a basis model for increasing the awareness regarding this ailment especially among the public.

Keywords: Diabetes Mellitus Awareness Model (DMAM); Structural Equation Modelling (SEM); Partial Least Squares estimation (PLS)

ABSTRAK

Diabetes adalah masalah yang terus berkembang di Malaysia dan peningkatan pesakit kencing manis di Malaysia adalah membimbangkan. Lantaran itu, kajian ini bertujuan menguji Model Kesedaran Diabetes Melitus (MKDM) yang terdiri daripada lima konstruk, iaitu *pengetahuan*, *sikap*, *persekitaran*, *gejala* dan *kesedaran* terhadap penyakit kencing manis. Kajian ini membangunkan model konseptual untuk mengkaji faktor-faktor yang mungkin dapat mewujudkan kesedaran dalam kalangan orang ramai di Malaysia agar dapat meningkatkan kesedaran terhadap penyakit tersebut. Sejumlah sepuluh hipotesis telah dicadangkan untuk menguji hubungan antara lima konstruk dalam model tersebut. Pemodelan persamaan struktur (PPS) dengan perisian SmartPLS menggunakan penganggaran Kuasa Dua Terkecil Separa (KDOTS) digunakan untuk analisis pemodelan. Kajian ini dijalankan di dua klinik kesihatan, iaitu Klinik Kesihatan Paya Besar dan Klinik Kesihatan Padang Rumbia dari 1 September 2015 hingga 15 Oktober 2015. Sejumlah 550 soal selidik diedarkan dan 523 soal selidik telah berjaya dikumpulkan. Hasil keputusan menunjukkan bahawa *pengetahuan* mempunyai kesan yang signifikan terhadap a) *persekitaran*, b) *sikap* dan c) *kesedaran* terhadap diabetes. Seterusnya, *persekitaran* turut mempengaruhi *sikap*, dan *sikap* mempunyai hubungan yang signifikan terhadap *kesedaran*. Walau bagaimanapun, hasil analisis menunjukkan tiada hubungan yang signifikan antara persekitaran dengan kesedaran. Tambahan pula, kedua-dua pengetahuan dan persekitaran tidak mempunyai kesan yang signifikan terhadap gejala penyakit kencing manis. Dapatan kajian turut mendapati bahawa hubungan bersebab antara

sikap dengan gejala, dan hubungan antara gejala dengan kesedaran adalah tidak signifikan. Kesimpulannya, pihak berkuasa di sektor kesihatan boleh menjadikan MKDM sebagai asas dalam meningkatkan kesedaran terhadap penyakit ini terutamanya dalam kalangan orang ramai.

Kata kunci: Model Kesedaran Diabetes Melitus (MKDM); Pemodelan Persamaan Struktur (PPS); Penganggaran Kuasa Dua Terkecil (KDT)

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