



THE  
MALAYSIAN  
COHORT  
Our Gift To The Future Generation

# Attrition of Participants in a Longitudinal Study: Experience from The Malaysian Cohort

Mohd Arman Kamaruddin, Noraidatulakma Abdullah, Ying-Xian Goh, Raihannah Othman, Wan Ahmad Faisal Wan Salam, Andri Dauni, Nazihah Abd Jalal, Norliza Ismail, Nurul Ain Mhd Yusuf, Afifah Awang, Salywana A Kamat, Nor Hazlinawati Basri, Nurul Faiezah Husin, Ahmad Syafiq Shafie, Mohd Shaharom Abdullah, and Rahman Jamal\*

UKM Medical Molecular Biology Institute (UMBI), UKM Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

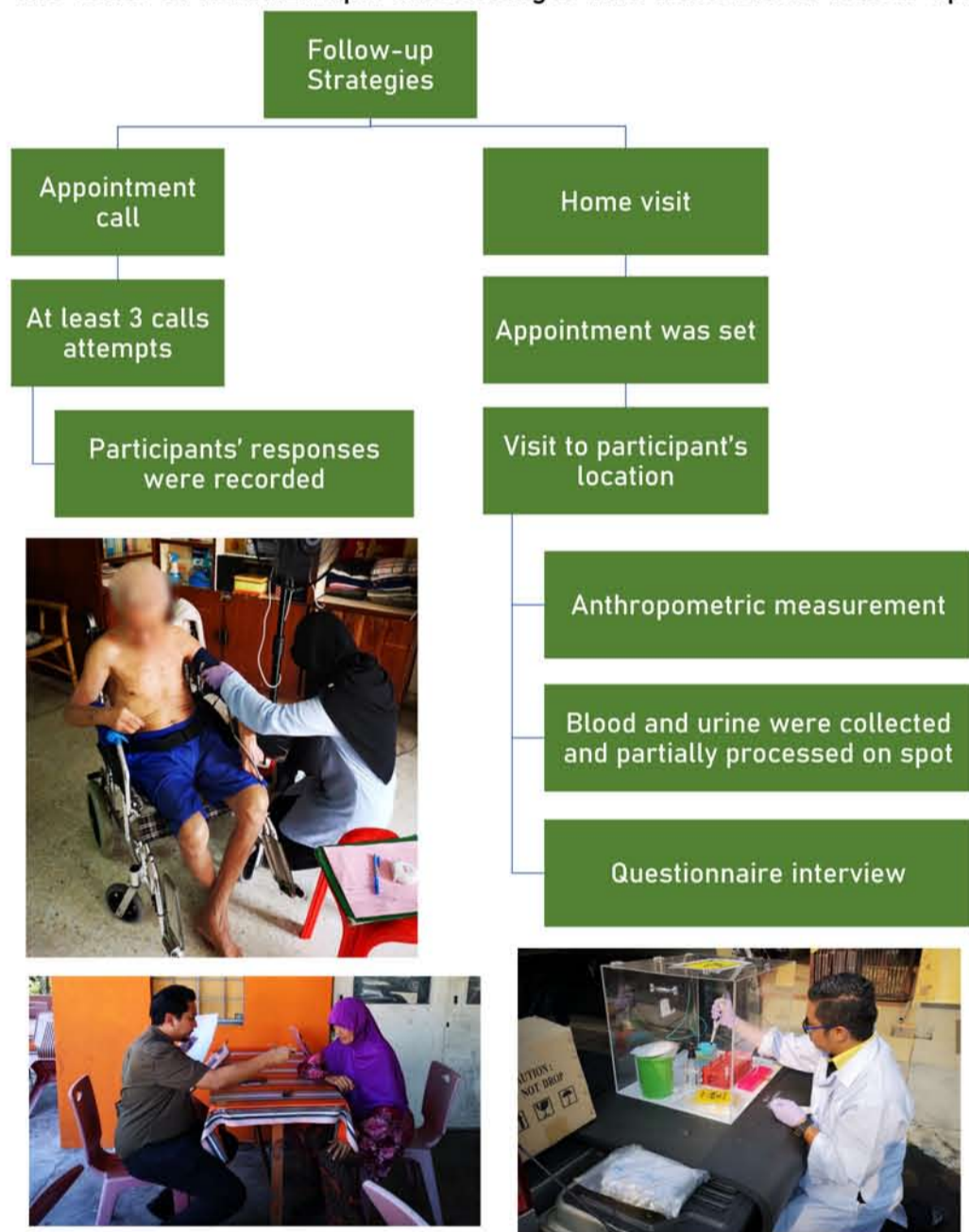
\*Corresponding contact: [rahmanj@ppukm.ukm.edu.my](mailto:rahmanj@ppukm.ukm.edu.my)

## INTRODUCTION

The attrition of participants in a longitudinal study remains a challenge. Although the Malaysian Cohort (TMC) project managed to recruit 106,527 participants during the baseline, the follow-up rate until December 2018 was only 42.7%. The aim of this study is to identify the causes of attrition among TMC participants and the remedial measures to reduce the attrition rate.

## METHODS

This study included 19,343 eligible TMC participants who are residing in the states of Kuala Lumpur and Selangor who were due for follow-up.



## CONCLUSION

To conclude, those who were Chinese, aged 50 years and above, unemployed [1], and have comorbidities during the baseline recruitment were more inclined towards an unsuccessful follow-up.

The home follow-up approach is useful, but will require some key resources such as staff and travel time. Further investigation would be needed before it can be implemented for a longer period of time.

## REFERENCE

This poster was modified from "Kamaruddin, Mohd Arman, et al. "Attrition of Participants in a Longitudinal Study: Experience from The Malaysian Cohort Study." Submitted, 2020."

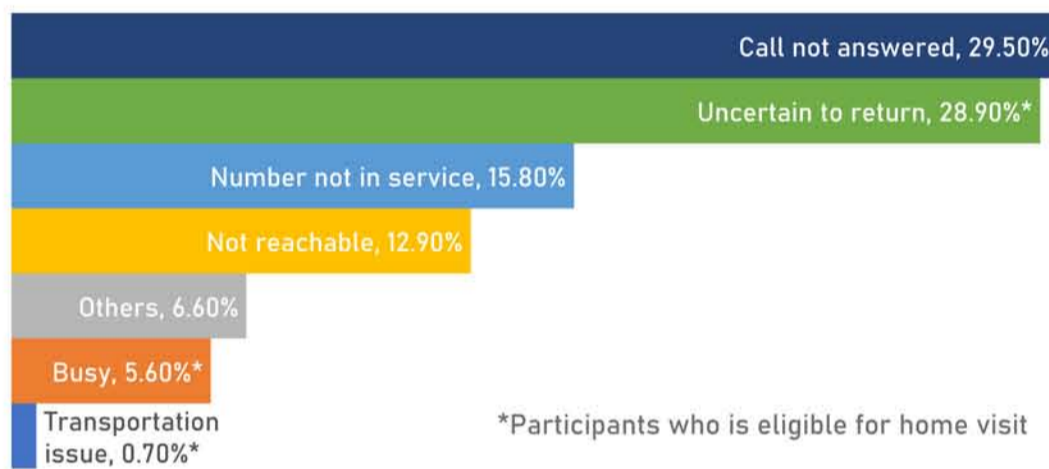
[1] Garcia, Montse, et al. "Attrition in a Population-Based Cohort Eight Years after Baseline Interview: The Cornell Health Interview Survey Follow-up (CHIS.FU) Study." *Annals of Epidemiology*, vol. 15, no. 2, 2005, pp. 98-104.



## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION



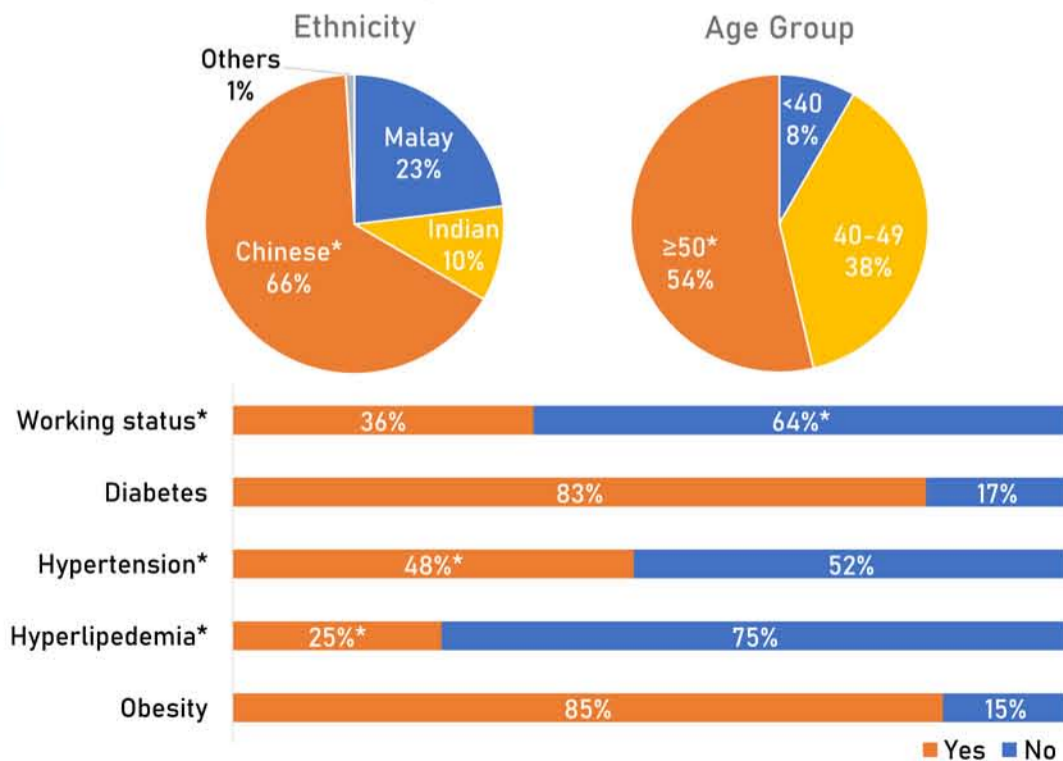
Reasons of Need to be Re-contacted for Appointment (N= 15,125)



Reasons of Attrition (N=2,992)



Characteristics of Participants did not want to come (N=2,992)



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This project was funded by Ministry of Education (PDE48) and Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia. We thank The Malaysian Cohort staffs, the community leaders, and officers from the local authorities involved who have assisted the project during the recruitment processes.