

PARENTS' KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDE, AND PRACTICE ON CHILDHOOD IMMUNIZATION

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: Vaccination has been proven as one of the successful methods to prevent numerous infectious diseases. However, vaccination hesitancy had become one of the major setbacks due to the socio-demographic, knowledge, attitude and practice of parents on childhood immunization.

Methods: A cross-sectional survey was conducted in Klinik Kesihatan Bandar Maharani by using simple random method. Data was collected from 250 parents using structured questionnaire consisting of several close ended questions to assess parents' socio-demography, knowledge, attitude, and practice on childhood immunization.

Results: Out of 250 parents who answered the questionnaire, most of the parents 226 (89.6%) knew that it is important to remember their child's vaccination schedule while 26 (10.4%) did not know, this answered our specific objective one which is to assess the knowledge of parents with regards to childhood immunization. Secondly, 223 (89.2%) of parents were in favor of vaccination while 27 (10.8%) were not, this portrayed our second specific objective which is to determine the attitude of parents with regards to childhood immunization. Besides, our research also showed that 223 (89.2%) parents have immunized their children while only 27 (10.8%) parents did not, which proves our third specific objective which is to describe the practice of parents with regards to childhood immunization.

Conclusion: Although majority of the parents preferred childhood immunization, there were a number of parents who did not have adequate access to information regarding childhood immunization. Hence, various approach on improving accessibility of parents towards information regarding childhood immunization should be the prime concern for a better awareness.

Keywords: Immunization, knowledge, attitude, practice and vaccine hesitancy.