KNOWLEDGE AND INTENTION TO GET CHILD IMMUNIZATION AMONG PRIMIGRAVIDA IN KUALA LUMPUR

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Abstract

Childhood immunization is one of World Health Organization (WHO) strategy and cost-effective public health measure in reducing child mortality from vaccine-preventable disease. Despite the immunization coverage in Malaysia is high, vaccine-preventable disease still occurs. Thus, the aim of this study is to assess the knowledge and intention to vaccinate their children among primigravida (a woman who is pregnant for the first time) in Kuala Lumpur. A cross-sectional study was conducted from March until December 2017. Self-administered questionnaires were distributed to 76 primigravida who came to Mother and Child Health Clinics in Kuchai, Jalan Bangsar and Taman Pantai Indah for antenatal check-up via simple random sampling technique. Data were analysed using SPSS software version 23.0 for descriptive and ANOVA. This study shows that about 56.6% had good knowledge on immunization. Majority of the respondents (98.7%) have intention to vaccinate their child. There is a significant difference for knowledge on immunization among race, religion, level of education and household income (p<0.05). In conclusion, level of knowledge on immunization should be enhanced to influence primingravida's intention to get their child vaccination.