



UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA

***ASSESSMENT OF SCHOOL ZONOTIC DISEASES AWARENESS
PROGRAM AMONG PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENTS OF SEKOLAH
KEBANGSAAN SERI SELANGOR USJ4, SUBANG JAYA SELANGOR***

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KEBANGSAAN SERI SELANGOR USJ4, SUBANG JAYA SELANGOR.**

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CERTIFICATION

It is hereby declared that we have read this project paper entitled “Assessment of school zoonotic disease awareness program among primary school students of Sekolah Kebangsaan Seri Selangor USJ4, Subang Jaya, Selangor”, by Hazlini Binti Shafie and in our opinion it is satisfactory in term of scope, quality, and presentation as partial fulfillment of the requirement for the course VPD 4999 – Project.

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DEDICATIONS

In the name of Allah, The Most Almighty and The Most Merciful

Special dedication and appreciation I give to...

My beloved parent, Ma and Ayah, who always pray for my success

Gayah Binti Che Deris

Shafie Bin Jusoh

My supportive and loving siblings

Salwani Shafie

Ridzuan Shafie

Muhammad Faizal Shafie

Hazlina Shafie

Shafiq Izlyn Shafie

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And to all my teachers and lecturers who have committed themselves toward the noble cause of education.

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ABSTRACT

An abstract of the project paper presented to the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine in partial fulfillment of the course VPD 4999 – Project.

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By

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2017

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Co-supervisor: Dr. Mohd Mokrish Md. Ajat

Humans are prone to be infected with zoonotic diseases from wildlife/domestic animals and the environment. It is important for public especially school students to be aware of zoonotic diseases in order to prevent zoonotic disease transmission when handling animals. Thus, this study was carried out to determine the awareness on zoonotic diseases among primary school students of Sekolah Kebangsaan Seri Selangor USJ4, Subang Jaya, Selangor before and after the school zoonotic diseases awareness program and as well as to assess the effectiveness of the program in educating students on zoonotic diseases . The awareness program conducted consists of eight modules and each module comprises of a few activities related zoonotic diseases education for school students. The program was divided into two phases, first phase was conducted on the 5th October 2016 at the school followed by the

second phase on the 10th October 2016 in UPM. A set of questionnaire on zoonotic diseases was designed to assess the awareness and knowledge of students on zoonotic diseases. The questionnaires (pre-survey forms) were distributed among the students to be answered before the students were introduced to the zoonotic diseases topics in the awareness program and the questionnaires (post-survey forms) which consist of the same questions as in pre-survey forms were distributed again after the the school zoonotic diseases awareness program and activities finished. A total of 40 respondents were obtained. Mann Whitney U-Test was used to analyze the data by each question. Significant difference ($P < 0.05$) in awareness on zoonotic diseases by each question was observed among primary school students of Sekolah Kebangsaan Seri Selangor, USJ4 between before and after the awareness program. (89.1%) from 35 total of questions had significant difference ($P < 0.05$) in awareness on zoonotic diseases between before and after the program was conducted. Thus, we can conclude that the program was effective and the students acquired basic knowledge on zoonoses and ways to prevent transmission after participating in the school zoonotic diseases awareness program.

Keywords: Zoonotic diseases, education, awareness program, primary school students, transmission

ABSTRAK

Abstrak daripada kertas projek yang dikemukakan kepada Fakulti Perubatan Veterinar untuk memenuhi sebahagian daripada keperluan kursus VPD 4999 – Projek.

**PENILAIAN PROGRAM KESEDARAN SEKOLAH TERHADAP
PENYAKIT ZONOTIK DALAM KALANGAN PELAJAR SEKOLAH
RENDAH DI SEKOLAH KEBANGSAAN SERI SELANGOR USJ4, SUBANG
JAYA SELANGOR.**

Oleh

Hazlini Shafie

2017

Penyelia: Dr. Nur Indah Ahmad

Penyelia bersama: Dr. Mohd Mokrish Md. Ajat

Manusia cenderung untuk dijangkiti penyakit zoonotik dari hidupan liar haiwan / domestik dan alam sekitar. Adalah penting untuk orang ramai terutamanya pelajar sekolah untuk menyedari penyakit zoonotik untuk mengelakkan jangkitan penyakit zoonotik apabila mengendalikan haiwan. Oleh itu, kajian ini dijalankan untuk menentukan kesedaran mengenai penyakit zoonotik di kalangan pelajar sekolah rendah di Sekolah Kebangsaan Seri Selangor USJ4, Subang Jaya, Selangor sebelum dan selepas program kesedaran terhadap penyakit zoonotik dan juga untuk menilai keberkesanan program dalam mendidik pelajar mengenai penyakit zoonotik. Program kesedaran yang dijalankan terdiri daripada lapan modul dan setiap modul

terdiri daripada beberapa aktiviti yang berkaitan pendidikan terhadap penyakit zoonotik untuk pelajar sekolah. Program ini telah dibahagikan kepada dua fasa, fasa pertama telah dijalankan pada 5 Oktober 2016 di sekolah diikuti dengan fasa kedua pada hari pada 10 Oktober 2016 di UPM. Satu set soal selidik mengenai penyakit zoonotik telah direka untuk menilai kesedaran dan pengetahuan pelajar mengenai penyakit zoonotik. Borang soal selidik (borang sebelum survey) telah diedarkan di kalangan pelajar untuk dijawab sebelum pelajar telah diperkenalkan kepada penyakit zoonotik topik dalam program kesedaran sekolah dan borang soal selidik (borang selepas survey) yang terdiri daripada soalan-soalan yang sama seperti dalam pra-borang kaji selidik telah diedarkan semula selepas program kesedaran penyakit zoonotik sekolah dan aktiviti selesai. Seramai 40 orang responden telah diperolehi. Mann Whitney U-Test digunakan untuk menganalisis data untuk setiap soalan. Perbezaan yang signifikan ($P < 0.05$) dalam kesedaran mengenai penyakit zoonotik dengan setiap soalan diperhatikan di kalangan pelajar sekolah rendah di Sekolah Kebangsaan Seri Selangor, USJ4 sebelum dan selepas program kesedaran ini. (89.1%) daripada 35 jumlah soalan mempunyai perbezaan yang signifikan ($P < 0.05$) dalam kesedaran mengenai penyakit zoonotik antara sebelum dan selepas program itu dijalankan, dengan itu kita boleh membuat kesimpulan bahawa program ini berkesan dan para pelajar memperoleh pengetahuan asas mengenai zoonosis dan cara-cara untuk menghalang penghantaran selepas menyertai program kesedaran sekolah terhadap penyakit zoonotik.

Kata kunci: penyakit zoonotik, pendidikan, program kesedaran, pelajar sekolah rendah, penghantaran

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Zoonoses are diseases that are naturally transmitted between animals and humans. In Tanzania, research has shown that several zoonoses, including brucellosis, leptospirosis, and Q fever, are common, but under-diagnosed, causes of human illness (Zhang *et al.*, 2016). Zoonoses constitute a diverse group of viral, bacterial, rickettsial, fungal, parasitic, and prion diseases with a variety of animal reservoirs, including wildlives, livestock, pet animals, and birds (Nkuchia *et al.*, 2007). In most cases, animals play an essential role in maintaining the infection in nature and contribute in varying degrees to the distribution and actual transmission of infection in human and animal populations. These diseases have a variety of transmission mechanisms that may be direct such as in rabies and anthrax, or indirect, via vectors, food, water and the environment, as in the case of bovine tuberculosis and cysticercosis. Many, such as brucellosis, also have multiple routes of infection. With the constant and inevitable interaction of man and animals, zoonotic diseases remain a genuine threat to health and survival for people, their livestock, companion animals and wildlife (WHO, 2005). Among the many zoonotic diseases prevalent in Malaysia are leptospirosis, rabies, influenza, Japanese encephalitis, toxoplasmosis, ornithosis, Q fever and monkeypox which have been investigated at the Division of Virus Research, Institute for Medical Research, Kuala Lumpur (Tan, 1981).

The perception of the community towards zoonotic diseases plays an important role for the maintenance of life cycle and transmission of these diseases to the different arrays of their hosts. Studying the perception of the community on the risk

factors, routes of transmission and life cycle of zoonotic diseases is a crucial step towards the development and implementation of appropriate disease prevention and control strategies (Tesfaye *et al.*, 2013). Majority elementary and high school students receive the information on zoonotic diseases from their families in the form of advice while most health professionals receive their information from medical schools they have attended which justifies that health professionals have better awareness about zoonotic diseases. It is shown that health professionals have better know how as compared to non health professionals and students' response is used to access information about what families of school aged children (Girma *et al.*, 2012).

Few studies have been done on zoonotic diseases in Malaysia. The studies include leptospirosis, an emerging zoonotic disease in Malaysia (Thaya *et al.*, 2013), some zoonotic diseases prevalent in Malaysia (Tan, 1981) and zoonotic malaria in Malaysia (Lim, 2013). However, there was no published study on zoonotic diseases awareness in Malaysia especially among primary school students. Thus, this study was conducted to assess awareness on zoonotic disease among primary school students of Sekolah Kebangsaan Seri Selangor USJ4, Subang Jaya, Selangor by focusing on the development of the best methods to educate the students about the zoonotic diseases so that they have better understanding on the prevention of exposure to zoonotic diseases through school zoonotic diseases awareness program that comprise of few modules that students would involve in.

The objectives of this study were:

1. To determine awareness on zoonotic diseases among primary school students of Sekolah Kebangsaan Seri Selangor USJ4, Subang Jaya, Selangor before and after the conduct of the awareness program.
2. To assess the effectiveness of the school zoonotic diseases awareness program.



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