

Intention to Donate Hematopoietic Stem Cells Among Blood Donors

Chuo Yew TING^{a,b}, Yew Fong LEE^{c,d}, Chien Joo LIM^e, Rachel Sing Kiat TING^f, Mohammad Masrin MD ZAHRI^g, Abu Sufian AHMAD^h, Jack Siew Yu WONGⁱ, Masita ARIPI, Zubaidah ZAKARIAⁱ, Shahren AHMAD ZAIDI ADRUCE^k, Jessie Koh Sing TNAY^b, Yi Shen WONG^g

^a Pharmacy Practice and Development Division, Sarawak State Health Department. ^b Institute of Borneo Studies, Universiti Malaysia Sarawak. ^c Institute of Global Health, Faculty of Medicine, University of Geneva. ^d Ministry of Health, Malaysia. ^e Clinical Research & Innovation Office, Tan Tock Seng Hospital, Singapore. ^f Jeffrey Cheah School of Medicine and Health Sciences, Monash University, Malaysia. ^g Blood Transfusion Services and Blood Bank Department, Sarawak General Hospital. ^h Blood Transfusion Services and Blood Bank Unit, Sibuh Hospital. ⁱ Hospital Miri. ^j Institute for Medical Research, Ministry of Health. ^k Faculty of Cognitive Sciences and Human Development, Universiti Malaysia Sarawak.

INTRODUCTION

This study investigated the level of and the influence of socio-demographic characteristics, knowledge, attitude, subjective norm and self-efficacy on the intention to donate hematopoietic stem cells (HSC) among blood donors.

METHODS

- Study design: Cross-sectional, 1st May – 31 Aug. 2019
- Total sample size: 569
- Sampling method: Probability proportional to size sampling method
- Study sites: Sarawak General Hospital, Sibuh Hospital, Miri Hospital
- Instrument and validity:

Construct related to HSC donation	Cronbach's alpha
Knowledge (4 items; Binary answer)	0.59
Attitude (10 items; 7 points Likert-scale)	0.72
Subjective norms (3 items; 7 points Likert-scale)	0.72
Self-efficacy (3 items; 7 points Likert-scale)	0.82
Intention (6 items; 7 points Likert-scale)	0.96

- Data collection: Self-administered questionnaire
- Data analysis: SPSS V22

Hypothesis testing	Statistical test
Association between socio-demographic and intention to donate	Independent t test/ANOVA
Association between knowledge, attitude, subjective norms, self-efficacy, and intention to donate	Pearson's correlation
Regression for factors associated with intention to donate	Linear regression

RESULTS

Table 1: Socio-demographic and hematopoietic stem cell donation related characteristics of the respondents and their correlation with intention to donate hematopoietic stem cells (N = 569)

Socio-demographic characteristics	N (%)	t/F; P value
Age in years	Mean (SD) = 34.6 (9.97)	
18 – 50	530 (93.1)	- 1.91;
> 50	39 (6.9)	0.057 ^a
Gender		
Male	394 (69.2)	-1.18;
Female	175 (30.8)	0.239 ^a
Ethnicity		
Malay	201 (35.3)	1.23;
Iban	73 (12.8)	0.175 ^b
Bidayuh	36 (6.3)	
Chinese	198 (34.8)	
Indian	8 (1.4)	
Others	53 (9.3)	
Educational level		
No formal education	4 (0.7)	1.36;
Primary school	15 (2.7)	0.087 ^b
Secondary school	259 (46.0)	
Tertiary	285 (50.6)	
HSC donation related characteristics		
Registered with MSCR		
Yes	26 (4.6)	0.14;
No	525 (95.3)	0.890 ^a
Past donation of HSC		
Yes	7 (1.3)	-0.42;
No	547 (98.7)	0.674 ^a
Attended any promotion related to HSC donation		
Yes	25 (4.5)	-0.77;
No	535 (95.5)	0.444 ^a

HSC: Hematopoietic stem cell; MSCR: Malaysian Stem Cell Registry; SD: Standard deviation; t/F value: t statistics value for independent t test, F statistics value for ANOVA test

^a Independent t test

^b ANOVA test

Table 2: Multiple linear regression for variables related to intention to donate hematopoietic stem cells (N = 520)

Outcome	Independent variables ^a	Multiple Linear Regression ^{b,c}	Std. coeff.	95% CI	P value
Intention to donate HSC	Knowledge towards compulsory registration as HSC donor prior to donation	0.03	-0.15, 0.30	0.526	
	Attitude about regulations of HSC donation	0.21	0.13, 0.35	<0.001	
	Attitude about handling of HSC donation	0.09	-0.01, 0.22	0.067	
	Attitude about the potential side effects of HSC donation	0.14	0.02, 0.10	0.001	
	Subjective norms about HSC donation	0.35	0.27, 0.42	<0.001	
	Self-efficacy on HSC donation	0.15	0.09, 0.32	<0.001	
	Age of respondents	0.06	-0.002, 0.02	0.127	
	Highest education level	0.10	0.03, 0.44	0.026	
	Ethnicity	0.05	-0.02, 0.11	0.185	

^a Variables with p value less than 0.200 in univariate analysis were included into the multivariate model using enter method.

^b Multicollinearity was checked and not found (variance inflation factor < 3); normality of residuals was checked (using histogram and normal P-P plot of regression standardized residual) and found fulfilled.

^c R square equals to 0.279 (standard error = 1.20); intercept (95%CI) equals to -1.677 (-3.04, -0.31)

DISCUSSION/CONCLUSION

Overall, 87.1% reported a positive intention to donate HSC. Concerns about the regulations of HSC donation, potential side effects of HSC donation must be addressed while promoting HSC donation. Improving subjective norms and self-efficacy about HSC donate may enhance their intention to donate. The findings are useful for the development of strategies for donor recruitment in the region.