



Self-perceived Need for Oral Healthcare among Diabetic Adults in Malaysia



INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH SYSTEMS RESEARCH

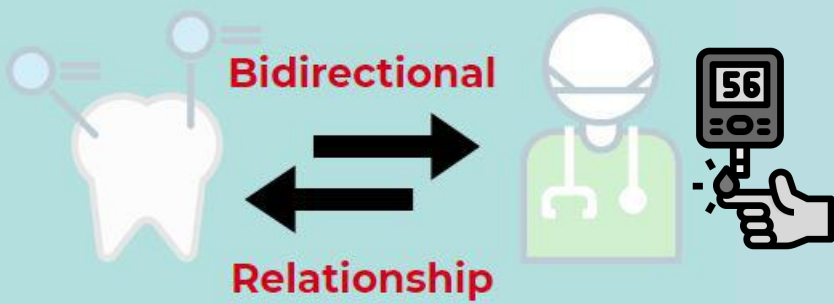
Tan Yeung R'ong*, Tan Ee Hong, Iqbal Ab Rahim, Suhana Jawahir, Sarah Nurain Mohd Noh
Institute for Health Systems Research

NMRR NO:NMRR-18-3085-44207

*E-MAIL: dr.tanyr@moh.gov.my

Introduction

- A bidirectional relationship exists between diabetes and periodontal disease. [1]



- Diabetes increases the likelihood of contracting periodontal disease while periodontal disease exacerbates hyperglycaemia.
- According to the National Oral Health Survey of Adults 2010, 94% of adults in Malaysia had periodontal disease. [2]

Objective

- To determine the perceived need for oral healthcare among adults with diabetes when they encounter oral health problem(s) in Malaysia.

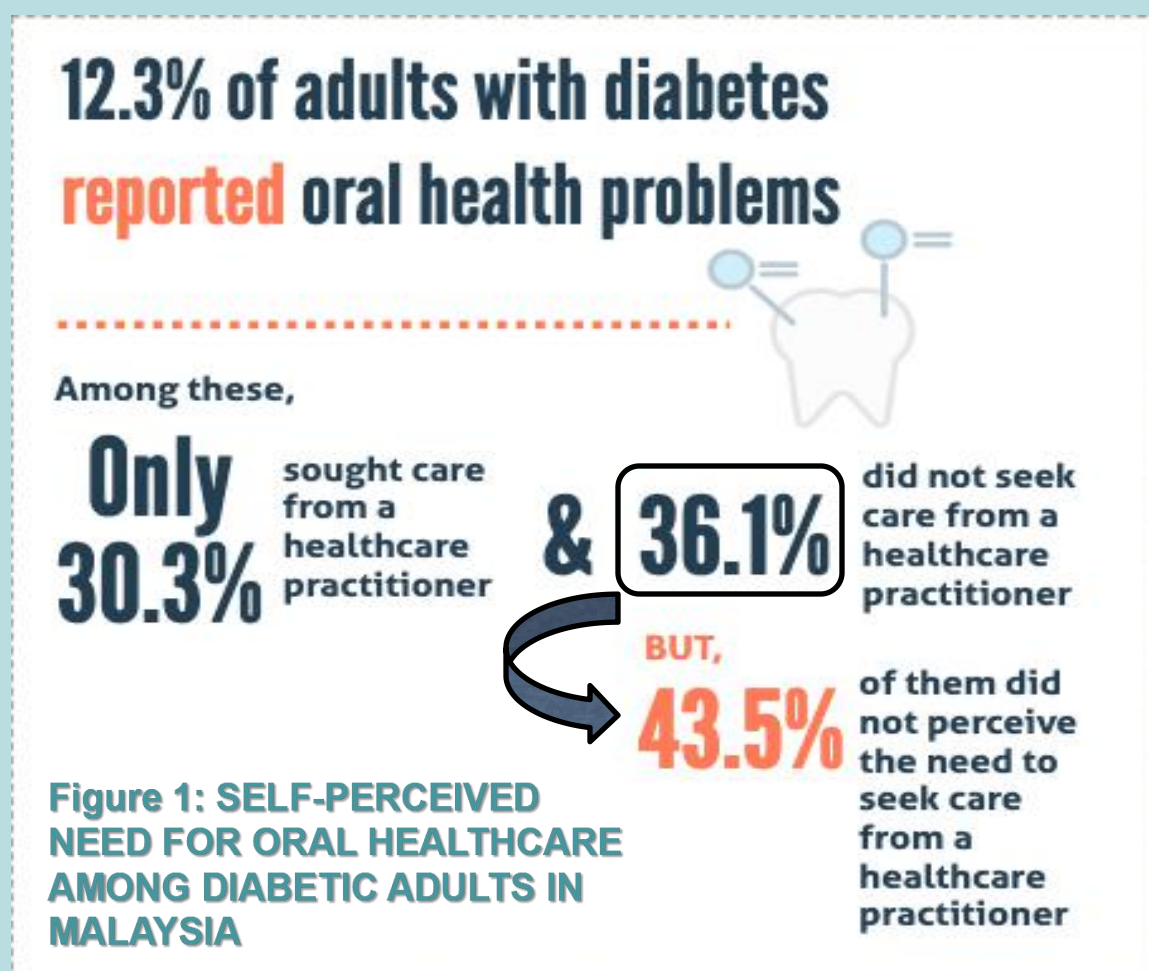
Methodology

- Data of adults aged 18 years and over from a nationwide cross-sectional household survey (National Health and Morbidity Survey 2019) were analysed using complex sample descriptive statistics.
- The survey used a two-stage stratified cluster sampling.
- Respondents in non-institutional living quarters in Malaysia were interviewed face-to-face.

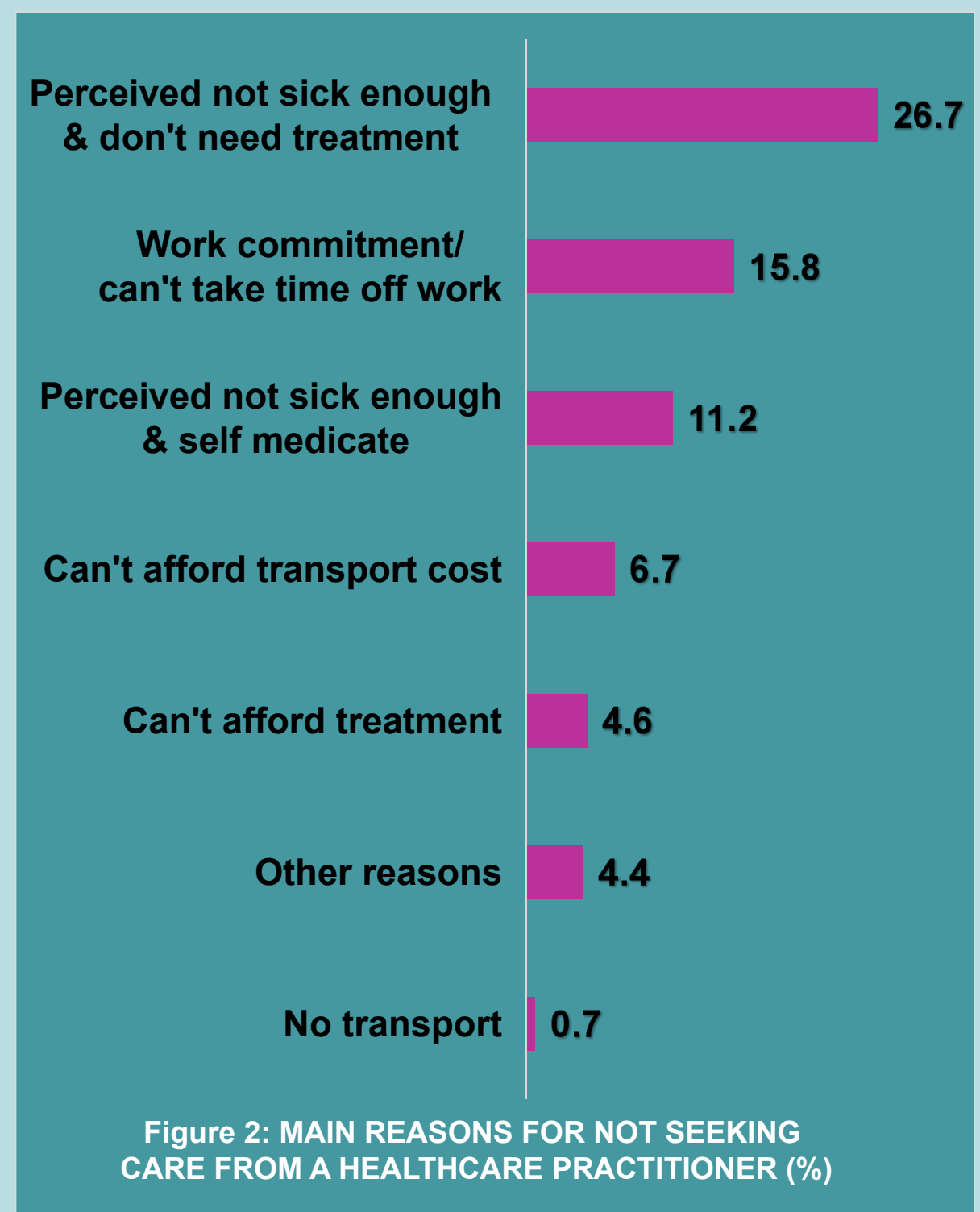
Results

- A total of 16,688 respondents were successfully interviewed.
- Among all the respondents interviewed, 1,426 (8.6%) respondents reported having diabetes.

- Main reasons for not seeking care from a healthcare practitioner is depicted in Figure 2.



- Within two weeks prior to the survey, 12.3% reported oral health problem(s) but only 30.3% among them sought care from a healthcare practitioner.
- Among those who did not seek care from a healthcare practitioner, 43.5% did not perceive the need to seek care from a healthcare practitioner (Figure 1).



Discussion/Conclusion

- Perception on the need for oral healthcare among those with diabetes was low in Malaysia.
- Management of diabetes in periodontal patients helps improve periodontal condition while management of periodontal disease helps prevent morbidity and mortality associated with diabetes. [1]
- Six monthly oral healthcare is recommended for diabetics patients; more frequent if they have periodontal disease. [3]
- The American Diabetes Association (ADA) recommends oral health examination during patient's initial health check-up. [4]
- Collaboration among general and dental healthcare practitioners in addressing diabetes and oral health is crucial to ensure diabetic patients receive holistic care.
- There is a need to educate the public on the bidirectional relationship between diabetes and periodontal diseases so that they could seek and receive appropriate care from healthcare practitioners.

References:

1. Agarwal R, Baid R. Periodontitis and diabetes: A bidirectional, cyclical relationship-A brief review. Acta Medica International. 2017 Jul 1;4(2):46.

2. Oral Health Division Malaysia. National Oral Health Survey of Adults 2010 (NOHSA 2010).

3. Aljaber A, Al-Surimi K. Promoting oral health practice among patients with diabetes attending primary health care clinics. BMJ Open Quality. 2015 Jan 1;4(1).

4. Care D. Standards of Medical Care in Diabetes 2020. Diabetes Care. 2020 Jan 1;43:S1-224.

Acknowledgement: We would like to thank the Director General of Health Malaysia for his permission to present this poster
Poster presented at the 13th NCCR; 24-26 August 2020