

# BREAST CANCER AWARENESS AND MAMMOGRAM SCREENING UPTAKE AMONG FEMALE STAFF IN IIUM Kuantan CAMPUS AND SASMEC @ IIUM

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## INTRODUCTION

Breast cancer is the most common cancer and cause of death in women. However, it is often detected late even though mammogram has been recommended as an effective screening test. Awareness of the importance of early detection and screening of breast cancer is vital to prevent morbidity and mortality.

National Health and Morbidity Survey 2019 reported that 47.9% of breast cancer cases were detected late (in stage 3 and 4) and 3 out of 4 women in Malaysia never had mammogram screening before<sup>1</sup>.

## OBJECTIVES

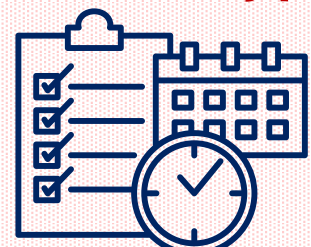
**Main objective** is to study the awareness of breast cancer and mammogram screening uptake among female staff in IIUM Kuantan Campus and SASMEC @ IIUM

**Specific objectives:**

1. To describe the level of awareness of breast cancer.
2. To determine the prevalence of mammogram screening uptake.
3. To describe the barriers of mammogram screening.
4. To determine factor associated with mammogram uptake.

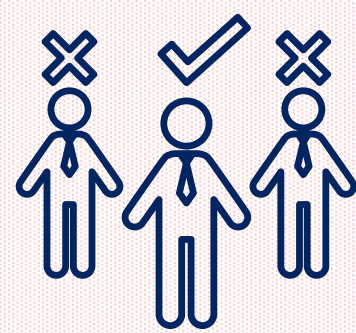
## MATERIAL AND METHODS

### Type of study and sample size



Cross sectional study involving 200 respondents from IIUM Kuantan Campus and SASMEC @ IIUM using convenient sampling method.

### Inclusion & Exclusion Criteria



**Inclusion:** Female staff age 40 – 60 years old, not pregnant, not lactating, no history of mastectomy and never done mammography within 1 year

**Exclusion:** Personal history of cancer

### Instruments



Self administered questionnaire consisted of 3 parts:

- a) Sociodemographic
- b) Breast Cancer Awareness Measure
- c) Barriers of Mammogram

### Data Analysis



Data is analyzed using IBM SPSS version 27.  
Chi square and Fisher's exact test  
Multiple logistic regression

## REFERENCES

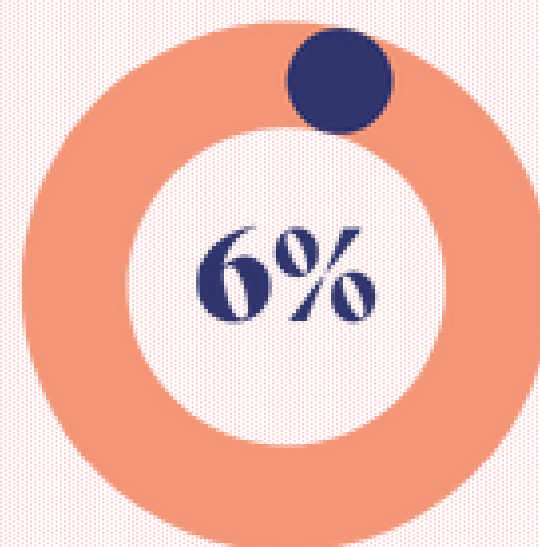
<sup>1</sup>Institute of Public Health (IPH), National Institute of Health, Ministry of Health Malaysia 2020. National Health and Morbidity Survey (NHMS) 2019: Vol.I: NCD – Non-Communicable Disease: Risk Factors and other Health Problems

<sup>2</sup>Abdullah, N. N., Aziz, N. A., Rampal, R., & Al-Sadat, N. (2011). Mammography screening uptake among hospital personnel in Kuala Lumpur tertiary hospital. *Asian Pacific Journal of Cancer Prevention*, 12(10), 2643–2647.

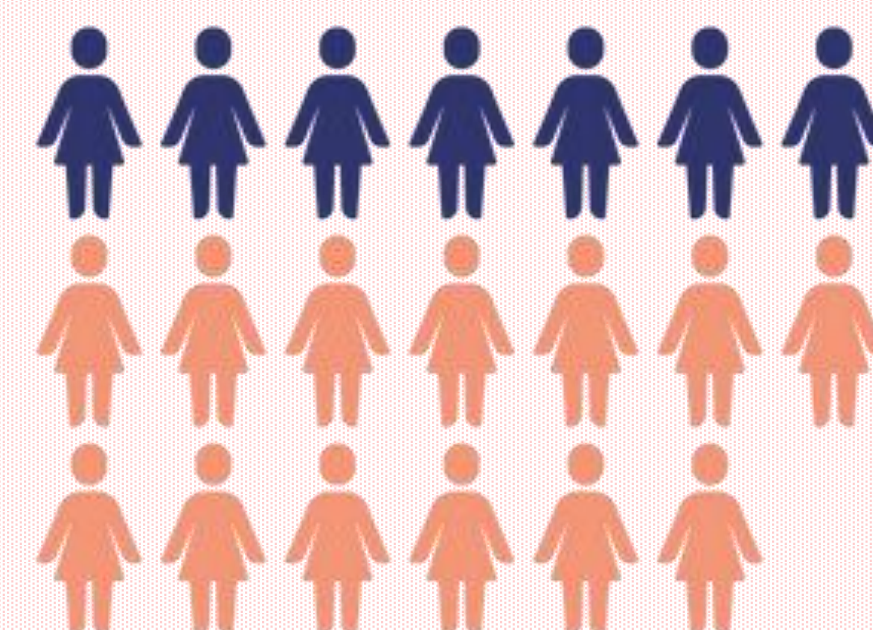
<sup>3</sup>Perrin, N., Ph, D., & Rosales, A. G. (2011). Patient Barriers to Mammography. *Health (San Francisco)*, 20(3).

<sup>4</sup>Mahmud, A., & Mohamed Aljunid, S. (2018). *The uptake of Mammogram screening in Malaysia and its associated factors: A systematic review*.

## RESULTS



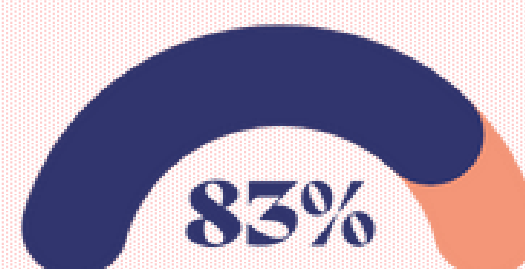
6% of respondents aware of breast cancer.



Only 35% of respondents had done mammogram screening



73% (146) respondents reported that they did not seek medical attention unless they are sick.



83% (166) respondents reported feeling fear if diagnosed with breast cancer.



45.5% (91) respondents reported feeling fear of pain during the procedure.

Significant factor associated with mammogram uptake:

- positive family history (AOR 5.29, 95%CI 2.537 – 11.047, p-value <0.001)
- lower age (AOR 0.37, 95%CI 0.179 – 0.780, p-value 0.009).



## DISCUSSION

- Breast cancer awareness among female staff is still low due to majority of the respondent failed to identify age related risk factor.
- Mammogram screening uptake is also low compare to other study done among healthcare workers despite no cost incurred for staff and mammogram screening that are readily available<sup>2</sup>.
- Presence of barriers toward mammogram resulted in decrease in mammogram uptake<sup>3</sup>. Identifying and overcoming these barriers will help to increase the uptake of mammogram.
- Younger age is the protective factor for mammogram uptake, which contradict with findings by other study<sup>4</sup>. This is due to higher level of education in respondent age 40 - 49 years old.

## CONCLUSIONS

Breast cancer awareness and mammography screening uptake among female staff in IIUM Kuantan Campus and SASMEC @ IIUM was low. There is a pressing need for an educational program targeting and emphasizing awareness on breast cancer and removing barriers that prevent mammography screening. This will improve acceptance and compliance with screening programs.