

PRIMARY AND SECONDARY DATA FOR THE STUDY TOWARDS APPROPRIATE MATERNITY SPACES FOR PUBLIC HEALTHCARE FACILITIES

Secondary data includes the following:-

1. from the World Health Organisation (WHO) on the definition and concept of
 - (i) maternity care from world view and the 'South Asian' or Asia Pacific Region of the WHO where Malaysia is located.
 - (ii) referral system on level of care (from primary care to secondary care to tertiary care)
 - (iii) health care facilities and local context
2. from the Ministry of Health Malaysia (MoH) Annual Reports and Malaysian Department of Statistic (online) for the following statistics :-
 - (i). on the population distribution throughout the country,
 - (ii) male and female population percentage,
 - (iii) productive age group in the population pyramid nationally and by states
 - (iv) birth rate by states and the its five year trend
 - (v) number of health facilities with maternity care
 - (vi) number of birth by ethnic group in public healthcare
3. from the Ministry of Health Malaysia for the historical development of the maternity services and facilities;
4. from project and design briefs formulated by the Ministry of Health Malaysia
5. from drawings of maternity / labour & delivery unit of new and existing hospitals
6. from private consultants and the public works department
7. from the literature review of international and local related books and journals.

Primary data includes

1. from the Ministry of Health Malaysia (Planning and Development Division) onsite interview from the Medical Services Planner or Doctors and Nurse Planner in charge;
2. from interviews and observation of the selected hospitals visited i.e. Maternity Unit of Penang Hospital; Old and New Pekan Hospital, Pahang; Low Risk Centre and Labour Delivery Unit of Kuantan Tengku Ampuan Afzan Hospital; and Maternity Ward of Jempol new hospital and Port Dickson Hospital as case studies.

personal experiences in planning and design as well as vetting hospitals and primary healthcare projects while in service as architect in the Public Works Department of Malaysia (JKR), the Ministry of Health Malaysia and as Health Facility Planner (Medical Planner) consultant for over 20 years.