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Types of nutrition resource kit needed by community living elderly in Malaysian Health Clinic setting : A qualitative study

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Abstract

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Abstract

Introduction: Elderly population is at high-risk to suffer from malnutrition and nutritional inadequacy. The use of nutrition resource kit which provides nutritional guidance could be helpful to improve their dietary intake. There is no study performed previously on the type of nutrition resource kit that can be used to overcome and prevent malnutrition among Malaysian elderly. Therefore, this study aimed to identify the types of nutrition resource kit needed by community living elderly in Malaysian health clinic setting. Methods: Qualitative study was conducted to explore the types of nutrition resource kit needed by community living elderly in health clinics. Recruitment for in-depth individual interview targeted elderly aged ≥60 years old who met the inclusion and exclusion criteria and received primary healthcare services in four health clinics in Kuantan, Pahang. Interview questions addressed the knowledge on existing nutrition educational materials, preference for types of nutrition resource kit and opinion on technology-based materials. Data were audiotaped, transcribed verbatim and thematically analyzed using NVivo software version 12. Results: 21 participants involved in this study (mean age=67.24 ±6.98 years). Five key themes identified from the data: provision of nutrition resource kit; preference for printed version; eye-friendly; facilitate understanding with diagram; and support for technology-based materials. This study also found that majority of elderly preferred for A 5-sized booklet for nutrition resource kit. Conclusion: Future development of nutrition resource kit tailored to the need of elderly is needed to deliver nutritional guidance effectively and served as an important reference for them to overcome malnutrition. © 2021 UPM Press. All rights reserved.

Author keywords

Community; Elderly; Malnutrition; Nutrition education material

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