

## National Health and Morbidity Survey (NHMS) 2020 COMMUNICABLE DISEASES



### INTRODUCTION

The National Health & Morbidity Survey (NHMS) 2020 focused primarily on communicable diseases topics. It was a cross-sectional survey using a complex survey design with a two-stage stratified cluster random sampling. Data collection involved 3 methods; field data collection including blood sample collection, postal survey and Computer-Assisted Telephone Interview (CATI).



7 AUGUST -  
11 OCTOBER 2020



1 SEPTEMBER -  
23 OCTOBER 2020

**5,957**

INDIVIDUAL AGED 1 YEAR OLD AND ABOVE PARTICIPATED IN THIS SURVEY  
( RESPONSE RATE : 87.4 % )

**4,588**

INDIVIDUAL AGED 13 YEARS OLD AND ABOVE PARTICIPATED IN POSTAL SURVEY  
( RESPONSE RATE : 82.5 % )

**3,191**

INDIVIDUAL AGED 13 YEARS OLD AND ABOVE PARTICIPATED IN CATI  
( RESPONSE RATE : 57.4 % )

### HIGHLIGHTS

#### COVID-19 Seroprevalence - aged 1 year old and above

- After wave-2 of COVID-19 (August - October 2020) in Malaysia, 0.6% or 191,279 residents living in Malaysia might have been infected.
- Out of every 10 infected people, at least 8 did not report any symptom\*.
- Among those who were infected, around 80% had neutralizing antibodies.

\*Tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 antibodies BUT did not report any COVID-19 symptom from 1st January 2020 until the date of interview.

#### Hepatitis B Seroprevalence - aged 15 years old and above

- Hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg) seroprevalence or current Hepatitis B infection: 1.7% with an estimated of 396,960 Malaysian population.
- Chronic Hepatitis B: 1.5% with an estimated 348,404 Malaysian population.
- Undiagnosed HBsAg: 1.4% with an estimated 331,639 Malaysian population.
- Antibody to hepatitis B surface antigen (Anti-HBs) seroprevalence: 33.8%.

#### Hepatitis C Seroprevalence - aged 15 years old and above

- Hepatitis C antibody seroprevalence: 0.4% with an estimated 90,120 Malaysian population.
- Current Hepatitis C infection: 0.2% with an estimated 51,675 Malaysian population.
- Undiagnosed Hepatitis C: 0.2% with an estimated 51,675 Malaysian population.

#### Tuberculosis (TB) - aged 15 years old and above

- Ever reported had TB: 1.1% with an estimated 261,292 Malaysian population.
- Any TB-like symptoms: 2.5% with an estimated 605,070 Malaysian population.
  - Of those with TB-like symptoms (persists for more than 2 weeks), mostly reported: Cough with phlegm: 0.9%; Dry cough: 0.4%; Fever: 0.3%.

## Knowledge & Behaviour on Communicable Disease Prevention

### HIGHLIGHTS

#### HIV Knowledge - aged 13 years old and above

- Only 22.6% had adequate knowledge of HIV.
- 47.9% believed that a person gets HIV by sharing food with someone who is infected, and
- 31.6% believed that a person gets HIV from mosquito bites.

#### HIV Stigma towards people living with HIV (PLHIV) - aged 13 years old and above

- 65.8% fear being infected by PLHIV.
- 47.7% had social judgement towards PLHIV.
- 44.0% had perceived stigma towards PLHIV.
- 56.8% had anticipated stigma towards PLHIV.
- 70.0% had experienced stigma towards PLHIV.
- 59.0% discriminate PLHIV.

Among adults aged 15 to 49 years old, 78.7% reported discriminatory attitudes towards PLHIV (either had experienced stigma or discriminate PLHIV).

#### Antibiotics Use and Awareness of Anti-Microbial Resistance - aged 15 years old and above

- 78.5% never heard of anti-microbial resistance.
- 25.0% have taken antibiotics for the past one year:
  - 34.4% reported they stopped taking antibiotics when they felt better.
  - 17.4% disposed of the balance in the trash.

#### Malaria awareness - aged 15 years old and above

- 76.1% ever heard Malaria.
- Correct knowledge based on Malaria domain:
  - 59.7% answered correctly on Malaria prevention.
  - 53.9% answered correctly on Malaria transmission.
  - 34.0% answered correctly on risk activities related to Malaria infection.
  - 24.1% correctly answered on Malaria symptoms.

#### Dengue prevention - aged 13 years old and above

- 19.5% ever heard of the Communication for Behavioral Impact (COMBI) program for dengue prevention.
- 58.5% perceived dengue as a health threat.
- 60.6% believed they themselves could effectively control dengue.
- 34.5% believed that the government authorities had effectively controlled dengue.
- 22.6% believed there are many major barriers in conducting dengue control activity on their own.
- For the past six months before the survey:
  - 36.7% did 'Search & Destroy' at least once a week.
  - 37.5% had participated in community 'gotong-royong'.

#### Dog-mediated Human Rabies - aged 13 years old and above

- 46.4% had high knowledge of dog-mediated human Rabies.
- 7.3% reported ever been bitten or scratched by dogs:
  - 15.3% of these had reported good health seeking behaviour when they were bitten/ scratched by dogs.
- 39.9% perceived good health seeking behaviour despite never got bitten or scratched by dogs.

For more information, please scan:

