**Confidence Level of Community Nurses of Nursing Care In Disaster**

**Nor Marini Mohamed, Alzamani Mohammad Idrose**

**Introduction**

Community health clinics hardly handle disaster situation. There is currently limited data in terms of staff confidence to handle disaster. This study aims to assess the level of confidence among the nurses working in community health clinic in Kuala Lumpur.

**Methodology**

There are 801 community staff nurses in 27 government healt clinics. Questionairres were sent for them to respond. Questions on confidence to handle disaster were incorporated and the answers were based on Likert Scale between 1-5 (very unconfident to very confident)

**Results**

260 nurses from 27 government community health clinics responded. The mean age of nurses is 34. 15 (7.13). 168 (64.6%) are female and 92 (35.4%) are males. The study found average score based on Likert Scale as follows :

* PPE in biological or chemical attack 3.89 (0.69)
* Decontamination in biological and chemical attack 3.48 (0.67)
* Familiarity in emergency response system 3.80 (0.64)
* Familairy with biological weapons symptoms and treatment 3.26 (0.71)
* Confident in ability 3.93 (0.58)
* Confident to be manager 3.70 (0.69)
* Confident to be in decontamination team 3.78 (0.62)
* Confident to manage patients in disaster independently 3.48 (0.85)

**Discussion**

The results show that the confidence level among community nurses to handle disaster is moderate. Community nurses do not deal emergency situations on daily basis. Thus, they lack the confidence in facing such situation. The nurses in surveyed group were also relatively young and thus did not have much experience in disaster.

**Conclusion**

Community nurses had average confidence in handling disaster. They need to have more exposure, education and training to handle disaster