

## Patterns of Medical Problems Among Rohingya Refugees Attending IMARET4Rohingya Clinics in Kelantan and Selangor

Aina Haziqah Abdul Hai, Ahmad Rashidi Mohamed Tahir<sup>2</sup>, Nur Aizati Athirah Daud<sup>1</sup>

**Background:** IMARET provides medical relief to the marginalised populations who lack the convenience of basic healthcare by conducting charity clinics including the Rohingya refugees from Myanmar. The medical problems of Rohingya refugees residing in Malaysia have not been reported and thus they may contribute to the disease prevalence and create a bias towards the local disease burden.

**Objective:** To determine the pattern of medical problems identified among Rohingya refugees during IMARET mobile clinic visits.

**Method:** This is a retrospective cross-sectional study conducted using data from clerking sheets and prescriptions from IMARET charity mobile clinics that were held in Selayang and Sri Kembangan in Selangor and Tanah Merah and Kota Bharu in Kelantan. The data was entered and analysed using SPSS version 27.

**Results:** From 3385 patients, most of the patients were female (n= 1800, 57.0%). Majority of the patients were aged 7 and below (n= 852, 27.0%) and most of the patients attended IMARET clinic in Selayang (n= 2842, 90.0%). The most common medical problems were related to diseases of the respiratory system (n= 1343, 27.53%), diseases of the musculoskeletal system and connective tissue (n= 860, 17.63%), diseases of the digestive system (n= 746, 15.29%), diseases of the nervous system (n= 437, 8.96%) and diseases of skin and subcutaneous tissue (n=355, 7.28%). The frequently occurring medical problems identified were pain (n= 1000, 20.51%), acute upper respiratory infections (n= 624, 12.80%), common cold (n= 456, 9.35%) and fever (n=360, 7.38%).

**Conclusion:** Analysing the medical data of the Rohingya refugees will allow healthcare professionals to plan strategies when managing the Rohingya patients in the mobile charity clinics. Hence, pharmacists need to ensure the supply of the medications for the common medical problems among the refugees are adequate according to their demands.

**Keywords:** medical problems pattern, Rohingya refugees

DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.31344/ijhhs.v6i0.435>

---

<sup>1</sup>School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Universiti Sains Malaysia, 11800 Penang.

<sup>2</sup>Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Cyberjaya, Cyberjaya, Selangor.

### **Correspondence to:**

Aina Haziqah Abdul Hai, Student, School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Universiti Sains Malaysia, [ainahaziqah1999@gmail.com](mailto:ainahaziqah1999@gmail.com)

---