

Research Article

Rural-urban comparison in prevalence of hypertension and its factors among adolescents of Sarawak, Malaysia: A cross-sectional study

Cheah Whye Lian^a, Chang Ching Thon^b, Helmy Hazmi^c, Grace Kho Woei Feng^d

^a PhD., Department of Community Medicine & Public Health, Faculty of Medicine & Health Sciences, Universiti Malaysia Sarawak, Kota Samarahan, Sarawak, Malaysia

^b PhD., Department of Nursing, Faculty of Medicine & Health Sciences, Universiti Malaysia Sarawak, Kota Samarahan, Sarawak, Malaysia

^c MComMed., Department of Community Medicine & Public Health, Faculty of Medicine & Health Sciences, Universiti Malaysia Sarawak, Kota Samarahan, Sarawak, Malaysia

^d MSc., Department of Community Medicine & Public Health, Faculty of Medicine & Health Sciences, Universiti Malaysia Sarawak, Kota Samarahan, Sarawak, Malaysia

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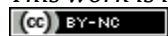
Abstract

Objective: This paper reports a study of the prevalence of pre-hypertension and hypertension, and its associated factors among secondary school students in Sarawak. **Methods:** It was a cross-sectional study using a questionnaire, anthropometric and blood pressure measurement. **Results:** A total of 2461 secondary school children participated. The prevalence of pre-hypertension was 13.2%, stage 1 hypertension was 12.4% and stage 2 hypertension was 4.6%. The prevalence of overweightness and obesity was 24.3%, elevated waist circumference was 13.5, and overfat and obese was 6.7%. Based on the urban model, factors that were associated with pre-hypertension were age, gender, parent with history of hypertension, overweightness and obesity. At the hypertension level, only maleness, overweightness and obesity were found to be associated factors.

Corresponding Author: Cheah Whye Lian, Department of Community Medicine & Public Health, Faculty of Medicine & Health Sciences, Universiti Malaysia Sarawak, Kota Samarahan, Sarawak, Malaysia. E-mail: wlccheah@unimas.my

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