

Factors Associated with Intention to Donate Hematopoietic Stem Cells among Blood Donors

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Keywords

Blood donors · Donate · Hematopoietic stem cells · Intention

Abstract

Introduction: Past studies pay little attention to the intention to donate hematopoietic stem cells (HSC) among blood donors. This study investigated the level of and the influence of socio-demographic characteristics, knowledge, attitude, subjective norm and self-efficacy on the intention to donate HSC among blood donors. **Methods:** This cross-sectional study recruited blood donors at selected public hospitals in the Malaysian State of Sarawak in 2019. A structured questionnaire was developed based on the review of relevant literature. It gathered information on socio-demographic characteristics, knowledge, attitude, subjective norm and self-efficacy on the intention to donate HSC. Variables with a p value <0.200 in bivariate analysis were included in the variable selection for regression modeling to examine their associations with the intention to donate HSC. **Results:** A to-

tal of 569 blood donors participated (94.5% response rate). Overall, 87.1% reported a positive intention to donate HSC. In the regression model, the factor with the greatest association with intention to donate HSC was subjective norms about HSC donation ($\beta = 0.35$, 95% CI 0.27–0.42), followed by attitude about regulations of HSC donation ($\beta = 0.21$, 95% CI 0.13–0.35), self-efficacy on HSC donation ($\beta = 0.15$, 95% CI 0.09–0.32), attitude about the potential side effects of HSC donation ($\beta = 0.14$, 95% CI 0.02–0.10) and highest education level ($\beta = 0.10$, 95% CI 0.03–0.44). **Conclusions:** The findings can be used to formulate a better strategy in promoting HSC donation among blood donors in the region.

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Introduction

In light of its promising effects and being the only available choice in treating certain diseases, hematopoietic stem cell transplantation (HSCT) has steadily gained popularity around the globe in the past decade [1]. As the