Are Malaysian Type 2 Diabetes patients willing to be trained to speak to their offspring about risk of diabetes and preventive measures?

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Abstract

Background: Offspring of diabetes patients have an absolute risk of 20-40% of developing the condition. Diabetes patients should be encouraged to speak to their offspring regarding diabetes risk and prevention strategies. The Health Belief Model conceptualises that the higher the perceived risk, the more likely an individual will modify their behaviour. The objectives of this study were to i) determine the distribution of type 2 diabetes patients regarding their willingness to accept training to speak to their offspring, ii) determine the distribution of type 2 diabetes patients regarding their willingness to accept training based on the HBM and iii) to determine the factors associated with their willingness to accept training. Methods: This was a cross-sectional study amongst type 2 diabetes patients attending two primary care clinics in Malaysia. Sociodemographic data and knowledge of diabetes risk factors were collected. The adapted, translated and validated Diabetes Mellitus in the Offspring Questionnaire-Malay version (DMOQ-Malay) was self-administered. Statistical analysis included descriptive statistics, univariate and multiple logistic regression. Results: A total of 425 participants were recruited. Of these, 61.6% were willing to accept training. In MLogR, six variables were found to be significantly associated with willingness to accept training. These were i) positive family history Adj. OR 2.06 (95% CI: 1.27, 3.35) ii) having correct knowledge that being overweight is a risk factor Adj. OR 1.49 (95%CI: 1.01, 2.29) iii) correctly identifying age 40 years old as a risk factor Adj. OR 1.88 (95%CI: 1.22, 2.90) iv) agreeing that speaking to their offspring would help them to prevent type 2 diabetes Adj. OR 4.34 (95%: 1.07, 17.73), v) being neutral with the statement ‘I do not have much contact with my offspring’ Adj. OR: 0.31 (95% CI: 0.12, 0.810 and vi) being neutral with the statement ‘my offspring are not open to advice from me’ Adj. OR: 0.63 (95% CI: 0.31, 0.84 Conclusion: The majority of type 2 diabetes patients were willing to accept training to speak to their
offspring to prevent diabetes. A training module should be designed to enhance their knowledge, attitude and skills to become family health educators.

Background

Type 2 diabetes is one of the commonest non-communicable diseases (NCD) in Malaysia and its prevalence is rising at an alarming rate. The overall prevalence of type 2 diabetes among adults of ³ 18 years old was reported as 17.5% in the latest National Health Morbidity Survey in 2015 [1]. This has shown an increase from 15.2% compared to the previous national survey in 2011 [2]. This clearly demonstrates the importance of diabetes prevention, especially in high-risk groups. One of the high-risk groups of interest is offspring of individuals with type 2 diabetes [3].

Evidence has shown that offspring who have one parent with type 2 diabetes have an absolute risk of 20-40% of developing the condition [4]. Genetic predisposition of an individual is considered an essential factor in the development of type 2 diabetes, but the presence of environmental and behavioural factors further play a role in the activation of these genes [5]. Studies have also shown that family members living together have a predisposition to developing similar diseases as they tend to adopt similar lifestyle behaviours [6]. This demonstrates the pivotal role of lifestyle modification among family members of individuals with type 2 diabetes in order to prevent diabetes [7].

A starting point may be to encourage type 2 diabetes patients to become the promoter of health within their family by talking to their offspring about risk of diabetes [8]. This would be more effective if they were able to promote preventive lifestyle changes as a means to prevent type 2 diabetes in their offspring. However, implementing diabetes prevention strategies and interventions in the family is challenging and less likely to be successful should they not perceive their family members to be at risk of diabetes [9]. Risk perception also known as perceived risk has been extensively studied and forms a
central construct of many health behaviour models that addresses health-protective
behaviours [10]. The Health Belief Model (HBM) conceptualises that the higher the
perceived risk of developing a certain disease, the more likely an individual will modify
their behaviour. In the context of diabetes prevention in the offspring, it is hypothesized
that type 2 diabetes patients who perceive their offspring to be at risk of developing the
condition will be more likely to introduce change within their family as a means of
prevention.

Hence, establishing the risk perception of type 2 diabetes patients who have offspring is
important prior to introducing preventive lifestyle intervention within their family. This
step is crucial to identify type 2 diabetes patients who are willing to motivate and speak
to their offspring about adopting risk-reducing behaviour and accept diabetes prevention
strategies [11]. Several studies have assessed perceived diabetes risk and the possibility
of prevention in the type 2 diabetes population and their offspring [12-15]. Other studies
have further investigated the willingness of type 2 diabetes patients to participate in
diabetes prevention strategies [8,12,16].

Whitford et al studied the perceived diabetes risk and the willingness of type 2 diabetes
patients to speak to their offspring and siblings among the Irish population [8]. They
developed a questionnaire in the English language based on the domains of the HBM [17]
including knowledge of diabetes risk factors, perceived susceptibility, perceived benefits,
perceived barriers and perceived severity. This questionnaire was later named the
Diabetes Mellitus in the Offspring Questionnaire (DMOQ) which was adapted, translated,
and validated into the Malay language (DMOQ Malay) [18].

However, to date, perceived diabetes risk among type 2 diabetes patients has not been
studied in the Malaysian context. This paucity of evidence led to this study which aims to
i) determine the distribution of type 2 diabetes patients according to their willingness to
accept training to speak to their offspring, ii) determine the distribution of type 2 diabetes
patients according to their willingness to accept training based on the domains of the HBM
and iii) to determine the factors associated with type 2 diabetes patients’ willingness to
accept training.

Methods

Study design and setting

This was a cross-sectional study carried out in two primary care clinics in the state of
Selangor, Malaysia between July to August 2016. One of the clinics was located in a semi
urban area while the other clinic was located in an urban area. The two centres provided a
good diversity of racial backgrounds of patients.

Study population

The participants recruited for this study were type 2 diabetes patients who were followed
up at the two primary care clinics. The inclusion criteria included type 2 diabetes patients
who were ≥ 18 years old, had at least one offspring without type 2 diabetes and were able
to speak and understand the Malay language. Patients were excluded if they had type 1
diabetes, were pregnant, had gestational diabetes, had a previous or current history of
mental disorders, had visual impairment that may impede the administration of the study
tool or could not speak or understand the Malay language.

Sampling method

Type 2 diabetes patients attending the clinics were approached consecutively during the
data collection days, given a patient information sheet describing the study and were
invited to participate. Patients who agreed were then screened to assess whether they
met the inclusion and exclusion criteria. Medical records were also checked for secondary
data for confirmation of details. Those who were eligible were recruited into the study
and written informed consent was obtained.
**Study tool**

The tool that was used in this study was the DMOQ Malay version [18]. This self-administered questionnaire was used to assess the perceptions of type 2 diabetes patients towards their offspring’s risk of developing type 2 diabetes and the possibility of prevention. The English version of this questionnaire was originally developed in 2009 by Whitford et al [8] based on the domains of the HBM which includes perceived susceptibility, perceived benefits, perceived severity and perceived barriers [17]. It was later adapted, translated and validated into the Malay language [18]. The DMOQ Malay version comprised of 21 items framed within five domains: 1) knowledge of type 2 diabetes risk factors, 2) perceived susceptibility, 3) perceived benefits, 4) perceived barriers and 5) perceived severity. The Cronbach alpha was 0.714 and the intraclass-correlation coefficient was >0.7 [18].

**Data collection and study procedures**

Data was collected by a research assistant (RA) who was trained with regards to the study procedures to minimize variability in the method of data collection. Socio-demographic characteristics were collected via face-to-face interview of the participants which includes their age, gender, ethnicity, family history of type 2 diabetes, number of children without type 2 diabetes, personal status and the highest formal education. These details were recorded in a standardised case report form (CRF) along with data from the medical records of participants which were obtained for the purpose of confirming the duration of type 2 diabetes and the current treatment for type 2 diabetes.

**Administration of questionnaire**

Participants were given the DMOQ Malay version with clear instructions on how to fill in the questionnaire. They were asked to circle the options that suited them the most as well as to answer the subjective questions in the space given. Participants were advised to
seek for clarification from the RA should any queries arise. They were advised to answer
the questionnaires themselves. Most of the participants took approximately 10 to 15
minutes to complete the questionnaire. Once the questionnaire was completed, it was
handed to the RA and checked for completeness.

**Sample size calculation**

The sample size was calculated using the single proportion formula with 5% precision and
95% confidence interval. The proportion (P) was estimated based on a study by Whitford
et al, which showed that 56% of type 2 diabetes patients would speak to family members
about their risk of developing diabetes if they were offered training to do so [8]. The
calculated required sample size was 379. Taking into consideration an additional 20% of
participant refusal and non-eligibility rate, this study aimed to approach 455 patients.

**Statistical analysis**

The data in this study was analysed using the Statistical Package for Social Sciences
(SPSS) version 22.0 (IBM). Variables were described as mean ± standard deviation (±SD)
for continuous data and number (n) and percentage (%) for dichotomous or nominal data.
The scores for items 1 to 6 in section 5 of the DMOQ Malay version were reversed as the
questions in this section were negatively phrased. The factors associated with willingness
of type 2 diabetes patients to accept training to speak to offspring were analysed by
simple logistic regression (SLogR) followed by multiple logistic regression (MLogR) as the
data consisted of categorical variables. Sociodemographic characteristics, knowledge of
risk factors of type 2 diabetes and items of all the factors of the HBM from the DMOQ were
the independent variables entered into the SLogR. Variables with a $p$-value of less than
0.05 from the SLogR were then included in the MLogR analysis. A $p$-value of less than 0.05
was considered statistically significant in the MLogR.

**Results**
Figure 1 shows the flow chart of patient recruitment. A total of 497 type 2 diabetes patients were invited to enter the study. Out of this, 50 patients (10.1%) refused to participate. Therefore, 447 patients were screened for eligibility and 22 patients (4.4%) did not fulfil the eligibility criteria. Consequently, 425 patients who met the eligibility criteria were recruited into the study giving a recruitment rate of 85.5%.

Figure 2 shows the distribution of type 2 diabetes patients according to their willingness to accept training to speak to their offspring. Out of 425 participants, 61.6% of them were willing to accept training.

The demographic characteristics of the participants are shown in Table 1. The proportion of participants with a family history of type 2 diabetes who were willing to accept training was higher (80.2%) compared to those who were not willing (69.3%). Otherwise, the demographic characteristics were comparable between those who were willing to accept training and those who were not.

Table 2 shows the distribution of type 2 diabetes patients according to their willingness to accept training based on the domains of the HBM. For perceived susceptibility, two items were found to have significant trends which were ‘likelihood that their offspring is likely to get diabetes’ ($\chi^2 = 6.760, 2$ d.f.; $p = 0.034$) and ‘worry that their offspring will get diabetes’ ($\chi^2 = 11.196, 2$ d.f.; $p = 0.004$). In the perceived benefits, there were also two items found to have significant trends which were ‘talking to their offspring would make them more aware of importance of diet and exercise’ ($\chi^2 = 6.535, 2$ d.f.; $p = 0.038$) and ‘encourage their offspring to make lifestyle changes’ ($\chi^2 = 16.652, 2$ d.f.; $p < 0.001$). Two items from the domain of perceived barriers were found to show significant trends which were ‘I do not have much contact with my offspring’ ($\chi^2 = 12.892, 2$ d.f.; $p = 0.002$) and ‘my offspring are not open to advice from me’ ($\chi^2 = 8.843, 2$ d.f.; $p = 0.012$). There is no
item in perceived severity found to be significant.

Eleven significant variables from SLogR were included into the MLogR analysis. These include age group (p =0.025); family history of type 2 diabetes (p =0.015); knowledge of type 2 diabetes risk factors which were overweight (p =0.038); and age more than 40 years old (p =0.012), ‘likelihood that offspring will get diabetes’ (p =0.036), ‘likelihood someone without family history of type 2 diabetes will get type 2 diabetes (neutral vs not likely, p =0.022), ‘worry that offspring will get diabetes’ (p =0.006), ‘encourage offspring to make lifestyle changes’ (p =0.002), ‘help prevent type 2 diabetes (agree vs disagree, p =0.028), ‘I do not have much contact with my offspring’ (p =0.003) and ‘my offspring are not open to advice from me’ (p =0.013).

Table 3 shows the factors associated with willingness of type 2 diabetes patients to accept training to speak to their offspring. In MLogR, six variables were found to be significantly associated with willingness of type 2 diabetes patients to accept training to speak to their offspring. These included family history of type 2 diabetes [Adj. OR 2.06 (95% CI: 1.27, 3.35)], knowledge of overweight as a risk factor for type 2 diabetes [Adj. OR 1.49 (95% CI: 1.01, 2.29)], knowledge of age ≥ 40 years old as a risk factor for type 2 diabetes [Adj. OR 1.88 (95% CI: 1.22, 2.90)], perceived benefit of speaking to offspring would help prevent type 2 diabetes [Adj. OR 4.34 (95% CI: 1.07, 17.73)], participants who were neutral with the statements ‘I do not have much contact with my offspring’ [Adj. OR: 0.31 (95% CI: 0.12, 0.810] and ‘my offspring are not open to advice from me’ [Adj. OR: 0.63 (95% CI: 0.31, 0.84].

Discussion

Main findings of study and comparison with previous literature

This was the first study in Malaysia determining the distribution of type 2 diabetes patients who were willing to accept training to speak to their offspring to prevent diabetes
and the factors associated with it. Our study shows that 61.6% were willing to accept training to speak to their offspring, a figure comparable to that (56%) from a previous study in Ireland [8]. A subsequent study conducted by the same group of researchers comparing type 2 diabetes patients in Ireland and Bahrain showed that the proportion of patients willing to speak to their family members was significantly higher in Ireland compared to Bahrain (75% vs. 54%, $p < 0.001$) [12]. These findings suggest that type 2 diabetes patients in these countries are willing to accept training if offered. This opportunity should be explored further and a training module for type 2 diabetes patients should be developed as a potential means of preventing diabetes in their offspring. At present, the evidence on effectiveness of this intervention is lacking. A randomised controlled trial is required to prove its value.

In the multivariate analysis, six variables were found to be significantly associated with the willingness of type 2 diabetes patients to accept training to speak to their offspring. These are i) having a family history of type 2 diabetes, ii) correctly identifying that overweight is a diabetes risk factor, iii) correctly identifying age ≥ 40 years old as a diabetes risk factor, iv) perceiving the benefit of speaking to offspring to help prevent them from developing diabetes, v) perceiving not having much contact with offspring as a barrier and vi) perceiving their offspring to not being open to advice from them as a barrier.

Type 2 diabetes patients who have a positive family history were twice as likely to be willing to accept training compared to those who did not have a family history [Adj. OR 2.06 (95% CI: 1.27, 3.35)]. Direct comparison to other studies is not possible as no data was presented in the same manner. Our finding is unique and highlights the importance of targeting those with a strong family history of diabetes in our population in terms of training them to speak to their offspring to prevent diabetes.
With regards to knowledge of risk factors, participants who had the correct knowledge that being overweight [Adj. OR 1.49 (95%CI: 1.01, 2.29)] and age ≥ 40 years old [Adj. OR 1.88 (95%CI: 1.22, 2.90)] are risk factors for type 2 diabetes were more likely to be willing to accept training compared to those who did not know. Again, direct comparison to other studies is not possible as no data was presented in similar manner. Our study shows that enhancing knowledge of type 2 diabetes risk factors among patients would potentially improve their willingness to accept training for diabetes prevention in their offspring.

In terms of perceived susceptibility, our multivariate analysis did not reveal that these items were significantly associated with willingness to accept training. Direct comparison with other studies was not possible as no data was presented in a similar presentation. However, Whitford et. al. found that Irish type 2 diabetes patients who worried about their children developing diabetes were more likely to speak to their family members about their risk of diabetes [OR 4.37 (95% CI: 1.75, 10.92)] [8].

Regarding perceived benefits, patients who agreed that speaking to their offspring would help them to prevent type 2 diabetes, were four times more likely to be willing to accept training compared to those who disagreed [Adj. OR 4.34 (95%: 1.07, 17.73)]. This is consistent with the study by Whitford et. al. which showed that patients who exhibited an increased appreciation of the benefits of speaking to their offspring were more likely to have engaged in preventive behaviours [8]. Perceived benefit is reflected as the individual’s estimate of a likelihood that a given action will achieve a specific goal [17]. However, in the context of preventing diabetes, the challenge would be to educate those who do not appreciate the importance of speaking to their offspring.

In terms of perceived barriers, patients who were neutral with the statements ‘I do not have much contact with my offspring’ [Adj. OR: 0.31 (95% CI: 0.12, 0.810] and ‘my offspring are not open to advice from me’ [Adj. OR: 0.63 (95% CI: 0.31, 0.84], were more
likely to be willing to accept training compared to those who agreed with the negative statements. This is comparable to a study by Becker et. al. which found that ‘perceived barriers’ construct of the HBM to be the most powerful construct across various preventive health study designs and behaviour [17]. However, our findings are unique as patients who were neutral with the statements on communication with their offspring are more likely to be willing to accept training.

Our study therefore suggests that emphasizing HBM parameters when consulting type 2 diabetes patients in the clinical setting may lead to an increased willingness to accept training to initiate discussion with their offspring.

**Strengths and limitations of the study**

The main strength of this study was that it revealed the willingness of type 2 diabetes patients to accept training to speak to their offspring and the factors associated with it. Additionally, the study utilised the DMOQ Malay version which is a valid and reliable tool based on the constructs of HBM to assess the perceptions of type 2 diabetes patients towards their offspring’s risk of developing type 2 diabetes and the possibility of prevention. This study has several limitations. Majority of the patients who were included in this study were of the Malay ethnic group (87.8%) as the DMOQ Malay version could only be administered to participants who were able to read and understand the Malay language. Therefore, the findings of this study may not be generalisable to the Malaysian population which currently consists of the following ethnicities which are Malay (69.3%), Chinese (22.8%), Indian (6.9%) and other ethnicities (1%) [19]. Another limitation was the use of convenience sampling which could have introduced a sampling bias. To minimise this bias, all patients with type 2 diabetes in the waiting area of both study sites were invited to participate in this study during the period of data collection.

**Implications for clinical practice and future research**
Findings from this study suggest that type 2 diabetes patients in Malaysia are willing to accept training if offered. A training module should be developed to train type 2 diabetes patients to speak to their offspring as a potential means of preventing diabetes. Due to the potential of social influence within families as shown in this study, interventions should be designed with the goals to enhance knowledge, attitude and skills of type 2 diabetes patients to become family health educators and model healthy behaviours. It should also facilitate intra-familial communication about risk-reducing behaviours. The module should include i) strengthening knowledge on diabetes risk factors, ii) improving attitude and perception towards the benefit of speaking to offspring to help prevent them from developing diabetes and iii) enhancing communication skills to speak to their offspring. Further research should involve other primary care clinics in Malaysia with multi-ethnic background to ensure generalisability of the findings to the Malaysian population. There is also a need for further research to explore the views of perceived diabetes risk in the offspring of type 2 diabetes patients and their willingness to engage in preventive lifestyle behaviour. Future research should include a pragmatic randomised controlled trial to evaluate the effectiveness of the training module.

Conclusions

This study has shown that a majority of type 2 diabetes patients were willing to accept training to speak to their offspring to prevent diabetes. A training module should be designed with the goals to enhance knowledge, attitude and skills of these patients to become family health educators and model healthy behaviours. The target group should include those with a positive family history of type 2 diabetes. This study should also prompt future research into preventing diabetes among offspring of type 2 diabetes patients in Malaysia.
List Of Abbreviations

NCD = Non-communicable diseases
HBM = Health Belief Model
DMOQ = Diabetes Mellitus in the Offspring Questionnaire
RA = Research assistant
CRF = Case report form
SPSS = Statistical Package for Social Sciences
SD = Standard Deviation
SLogR = Simple logistic regression
MLogR = Multiple logistic regression
Adj OR = Adjusted odds ratio

Declarations

**Ethics approval and consent to participate**

The study protocol and the DMOQ Malay version questionnaire which was used in this study were reviewed and approved by the National Institute of Health and Medical Research Ethics Committee, Ministry of Health Malaysia (NMRR-14-1861-22954) and the University Research Ethics Committee (600-RMI (5/1/6). Patient information leaflets were distributed in Malay language. Written informed consent was obtained from the participants before they were recruited into the study. Participants were informed that they could withdraw from the study at any time if they wish to do so.

**Consent for publication**

Participants’ consent for publication is not applicable as participants’ individual data was neither provided nor presented in the manuscript.

**Competing interests**
The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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**Availability of data and materials**

Data of this study is kept at the Institute of Pathology, Laboratory and Forensic Medicine (I-PPerForM), Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM), Sungai Buloh Campus, Jalan Hospital, 47000 Sungai Buloh, Selangor, Malaysia. Data will be shared by the corresponding author upon request and it is subjected to the data protection regulations.

**Authors’ contributions**

SFB, ASR, and DLW conceptualised and designed the study. SFB, ASR and MRI acquired the funding and ethics approval. SFB and ASR supervised and coordinated the study. NMZ acquired the data. MRI analysed and interpreted the data. SFB and ASR drafted the manuscript. NMZ, DLW and MRI revised it critically for important intellectual content. All authors have read and given approval for the final manuscript. Each author has participated sufficiently in the work to take public responsibility for appropriate portions of the contents as described. All authors agree to be accountable for all aspects of the work to ensure accuracy or integrity of any part of the work would be appropriately investigated and resolved.

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Tables
| Variables                          | Willing to accept training | Total (N=425), n(%) |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|
|                                   | Yes (N = 262), n(%)         | No (N = 163), n(%)  |
|                                   |                             |                     |
| **Age (years old):**              |                             |                     |
| [Mean (SD)]                       | 54.33 (8.39)                | 56.05 (8.76)        | 54.99 (8.57) |
| 18 - 29                           | 1 (0.4)                     | 2 (1.2)             | 3 (0.7)     |
| 30 - 59                           | 184 (70.2)                  | 94 (57.7)           | 278 (65.4)  |
| 60 and above                      | 77 (29.4)                   | 67 (41.1)           | 144 (33.9)  |
| **Gender:**                       |                             |                     |
| Male                              | 131 (50.0)                  | 77 (47.2)           | 208 (48.9) |
| Female                            | 131 (50.0)                  | 86 (52.8)           | 217 (51.1) |
| **Ethnicity:**                    |                             |                     |
| Malay                             | 230 (87.8)                  | 143 (87.7)          | 373 (87.8) |
| Chinese                           | 8 (3.1)                     | 8 (4.9)             | 16 (3.8)   |
| Indian                            | 17 (6.5)                    | 9 (5.5)             | 26 (6.1)   |
| Bumiputera (Sabah & Sarawak)      | 3 (1.1)                     | 1 (0.6)             | 4 (0.9)    |
| Others                            | 4 (1.5)                     | 2 (1.0)             | 6 (1.4)    |
| **Marital status:**               |                             |                     |
| Married                           | 234 (89.3)                  | 137 (84.0)          | 371 (87.8) |
| Widowed                           | 23 (8.8)                    | 22 (12.5)           | 45 (10.6)  |
| Divorce                           | 4 (1.5)                     | 3 (1.8)             | 7 (1.6)    |
| Not married                       | 1 (0.6)                     | 1 (0.6)             | 2 (0.5)    |
| **Education:**                    |                             |                     |
| No                                | 5 (1.9)                     | 5 (3.1)             | 10 (2.4)   |
| Primary                           | 35 (13.4)                   | 29 (17.8)           | 64 (15.1)  |
| Secondary                         | 145 (55.3)                  | 90 (55.2)           | 235 (55.3) |
| Tertiary                          | 77 (29.4)                   | 39 (23.9)           | 116 (27.3) |
| **Duration of type 2 diabetes (Years):** | 7.32 (5.91)                | 8.05 (6.95)         | 7.60 (6.33) |
| [Mean (SD)]                       | 111 (42.4)                  | 66 (40.5)           | 177 (41.6) |
| Less than 5 years                 | 92 (35.1)                   | 60 (36.8)           | 152 (35.8) |
| 5 - 10 years                      | 59 (22.5)                   | 37 (22.7)           | 96 (22.6)  |
| 10 years and above                |                             |                     |
| **Treatment:**                    |                             |                     |
| Diet only                         | 9 (3.4)                     | 6 (3.7)             | 15 (3.5)   |
| Oral antidiabetic & Diet          | 165 (63.0)                  | 103 (63.2)          | 268 (63.1) |
| Diet                              | 14 (5.3)                    | 13 (8.0)            | 27 (6.4)   |
| Diet & Insulin                    | 74 (28.2)                   | 41 (25.2)           | 115 (27.1) |
| Oral antidiabetic, diet & insulin |                             |                     |
| **Family history of type 2 diabetes:** | 210 (80.2)                | 113 (69.3)          | 323 (76.0) |
| Yes                               | 52 (19.8)                   | 50 (30.7)           | 102 (24.0) |
| No                                |                             |                     |
| **No. of offspring without type 2 diabetes:** | 138 (52.7)                | 80 (49.1)          | 218 (51.3) |
| 1 - 3                             | 124 (47.3)                  | 83 (50.9)           | 207 (48.7) |
| 4 and above                       |                             |                     |
Table 2: Distribution of Type 2 diabetes patients according to their willingness to accept training based on the domains of the Health Belief Model

| Domains of the Health Belief Model | Willing to accept training | \( \chi^2 \) |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|----------|
|                                   | Yes (N = 262)             | No (N = 163) | (df) |
|                                   | n (%)                    | n (%)     |       |
| PERCEIVED SUSCEPTIBILITY:         |                           |           |       |
| Likelihood that offspring will get diabetes: |                       |           |       |
| Not likely                        | 43 (16.4)                | 28 (17.2) | 6.760 |
| Neutral                           | 39 (14.9)                | 40 (24.5) | (2)   |
| Likely                            | 180 (68.7)               | 95 (58.3) |       |
| Likelihood someone without family history of diabetes will get diabetes: |               |           |       |
| Not likely                        | 33 (12.6)                | 14 (8.6)  | 5.518 |
| Neutral                           | 10 (3.8)                 | 14 (8.6)  | (2)   |
| Likely                            | 219 (83.6)               | 135 (82.8)|       |
| Worry that offspring will get diabetes: |                       |           |       |
| Not worry                         | 37 (14.1)                | 28 (17.2) | 11.196|
| Neutral                           | 11 (4.2)                 | 20 (12.3) | (2)   |
| Worry                             | 214 (81.7)               | 115 (70.5)|       |
| PERCEIVED BENEFITS:               |                           |           |       |
| Talking make offspring more aware of importance of diet and exercise: |                   |           |       |
| Disagree                          | 3 (1.1)                  | 6 (3.7)   | 6.535 |
| Neutral                           | 2 (0.8)                  | 5 (3.1)   | (2)   |
| Agree                             | 257 (98.1)               | 152 (93.2)|       |
| Encourage offspring to make lifestyle changes: |                 |           |       |
| Disagree                          | 3 (1.1)                  | 8 (4.9)   | 16.652|
| Neutral                           | 2 (0.8)                  | 10 (6.1)  | (2)   |
| Agree                             | 257 (98.1)               | 145 (89.0)|       |
| Help prevent type 2 diabetes:     |                           |           |       |
| Disagree                          | 5 (1.9)                  | 10 (6.1)  | 5.589 |
| Neutral                           | 6 (2.3)                  | 5 (3.1)   | (2)   |
| Agree                             | 251 (95.8)               | 148 (90.8)|       |
| PERCEIVED BARRIERS                |                           |           |       |
| I do not have a healthy lifestyle myself: |                     |           |       |
| Agree                             | 108 (41.2)               | 62 (38.0) | 2.204 |
| Neutral                           | 33 (12.6)                | 29 (17.8) | (2)   |
| Disagree                          | 121 (46.2)               | 72 (44.2) |       |
| I do not have much contact with my offspring: |                  |           |       |
| Agree                             | 45 (17.2)                | 20 (12.3) | 12.892|
| Neutral                           | 13 (5.0)                 | 24 (14.7) | (2)   |
| Disagree                          | 204 (77.8)               | 119 (73.0)|       |
My offspring are not open to advice from me:

|        | Agree | Neutral | Disagree |
|--------|-------|---------|----------|
| Agree  | 54 (20.6) | 36 (13.7) | 172 (65.7) |
| Neutral| 30 (18.4) | 41 (25.1) | 92 (56.5)  |

They do not see diabetes as a serious illness:

|        | Agree | Neutral | Disagree |
|--------|-------|---------|----------|
| Agree  | 79 (30.2) | 25 (9.5) | 158 (60.3) |
| Neutral| 46 (28.2) | 20 (12.3) | 97 (59.5)  |

They do not believe they are at risk for diabetes:

|        | Agree | Neutral | Disagree |
|--------|-------|---------|----------|
| Agree  | 75 (28.6) | 42 (25.8) | 145 (55.3) |
| Neutral| 42 (16.1) | 38 (23.3) | 83 (50.9)  |

I prioritize other things than my own health:

|        | Agree | Neutral | Disagree |
|--------|-------|---------|----------|
| Agree  | 197 (75.2) | 24 (9.2) | 41 (15.6) |
| Neutral| 120 (73.6) | 16 (9.8) | 27 (16.6) |

### PERCEIVED SEVERITY

|       | Mean (95%CI) | Mean (95%CI) | t (df) |
|-------|--------------|--------------|-------|
| Cancer| 4.41 (4.30, 4.52) | 4.33 (4.19, 4.48) | 0.81 (423) |
| DM    | 4.32 (4.21, 4.42) | 4.17 (4.02, 4.31) | 1.723 (422) |
| AIDS  | 4.39 (4.23, 4.51) | 4.23 (4.04, 4.42) | 1.22 (423) |

Notes:
* Statistically significant at $\alpha=0.05$
μStatistical test: Chi-square
τStatistical test: Student t-test

Table 3: Factors associated with willingness of Type 2 diabetes patients to accept training to speak to their offspring regarding risk of type 2 diabetes and means of prevention

Figures
## Variables

| Variables                                      | Multiple Logistic Regression (MLogR) | Adj. Beta (SE) | Wald (df) | p-value |
|------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|-----------|---------|
| **DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS**               |                                     |                |           |         |
| Family history of type 2 diabetes:             |                                     |                |           |         |
| Yes                                            | 0.72 (0.25)                         | 8.564 (1)      | 0.003*    |         |
| No                                             |                                     |                |           |         |
| KNOWLEDGE OF RISK FACTORS                      |                                     |                |           |         |
| Overweight:                                    |                                     |                |           |         |
| Yes                                            | 0.40 (0.22)                         | 3.843          | 0.045*    |         |
| No                                             |                                     |                |           |         |
| Age more than 40:                              |                                     |                |           |         |
| Yes                                            | 0.63 (0.22)                         | 8.280 (1)      | 0.04*     |         |
| No                                             |                                     |                |           |         |
| **PERCEIVED BENEFIT**                          |                                     |                |           |         |
| Speaking to offspring helps them to prevent diabetes: |                                     |                |           |         |
| Disagree                                       |                                     | 9.537 (2)      | 0.008     |         |
| Neutral                                        | -0.42 (1.08)                        | 0.153 (1)      | 0.696     |         |
| Agree                                          | 1.47 (0.72)                         | 4.242 (1)      | 0.039*    |         |
| **PERCEIVED BARRIER**                          |                                     |                |           |         |
| I do not have much contact with my offspring:  |                                     |                |           |         |
| Agree                                          |                                     | 5.988 (2)      | 0.005     |         |
| Neutral                                        | -1.16 (0.49)                        | 5.718 (1)      | 0.017*    |         |
| Disagree                                       | -0.33 (0.34)                        | 0.969 (1)      | 0.325     |         |
| My offspring are not open to advice from me:   |                                     |                |           |         |
| Agree                                          |                                     | 5.528 (2)      | 0.063     |         |
| Neutral                                        | -0.46 (0.36)                        | 1.641 (1)      | 0.045*    |         |
| Disagree                                       | 0.21 (0.31)                         | 0.439 (1)      | 0.508     |         |

Notes:
- p-value = p-value from Wald’s tests
- * Statistically significant at p = 0.05
- CI = confidence interval; df = degree of freedom; OR: odds ratio
- Hosmer and Lemeshow test = 0.849
- Variables with a p-value of < 0.05 with simple logistic regression were included in the multiple logistic regression.
- Multiple logistic regression (no multicollinearity).
- All assumptions were met.
- Sensitivity: 88.9%, specificity: 29.4%
497 patients attending diabetes clinic were approached and invited to participate in the study.
- 50 patients (10.1%) refused participation.

447 patients were screened for eligibility

425 patients (85.5%) met the inclusion criteria

22 patients (4.4%) did not meet the inclusion criteria

- 10 patients with poor understanding of Malay language
- 10 patients with poor vision
- 2 patients with suspected dementia

425 patients enrolled into the study
Administration of the DMOQ Malay version and data collection

Figure 1
Flow chart of patient recruitment
Figure 2

Distribution of T2DM patients according to their willingness to accept training to speak to their offspring (N = 425)

Supplementary Files

This is a list of supplementary files associated with this preprint. Click to download.

STROBE_checklist_cross-sectional-studies_DMOQ 29.1.20.pdf