

# P-27: Aspirin Administration for Acute Coronary Syndrome (ACS) in Emergency Department (ED) and Pre-Hospital Care (PHC) at Cluster Hospitals in Central Selangor: A Prospective Study



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## 1. INTRODUCTION

- Aspirin, a lifesaving medicine in the initial management of acute coronary syndrome (ACS).
- Aspirin significantly reduce acute myocardial infarction mortality rate<sup>1</sup>.

### Objectives:

1. To assess the knowledge, attitude and practice (KAP) of aspirin administration among healthcare workers (HCWs) from ED and PHC.

2. To identify if aspirin is the first drug given to a patient presenting with chest pain in ACS.

## 2. METHODS

### Study Design

- Multi-centre, cross-sectional survey

### Study Location & Population

- Cluster hospitals in central Selangor
- Doctors, medical assistants (MAs) and staff nurses in ED and PHC

### Sampling Method

- Random sampling
- Odd-numbered subjects answered survey from a list of HCWs

### Study Tool

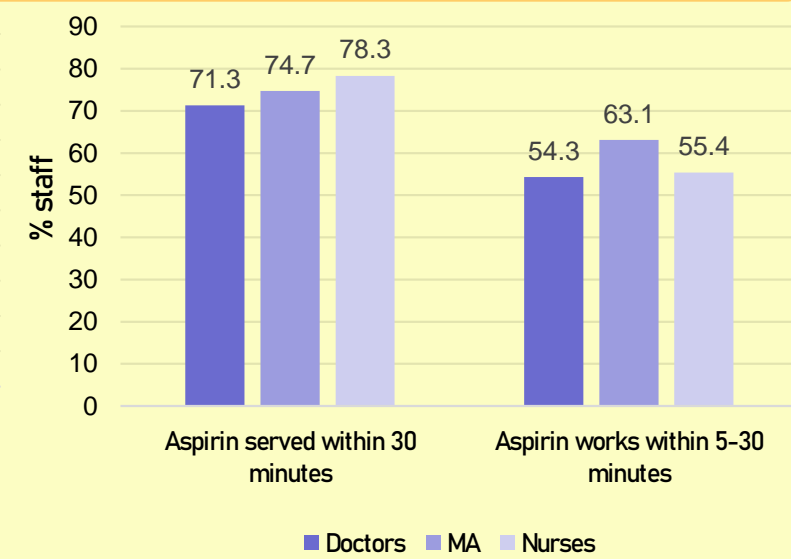
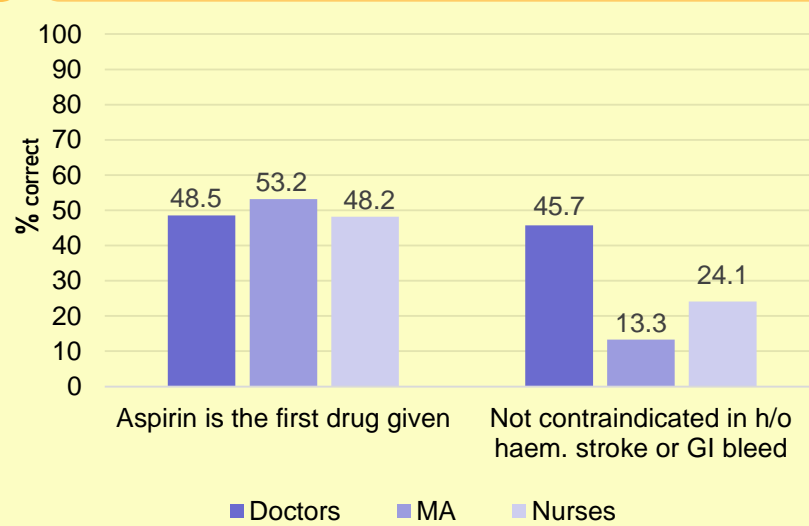
- Survey validated by ED and PHC seniors with cardiac post-basic
- Pilot study was conducted

## 3. RESULTS

### DEMOGRAPHICS

Demographics		Total (N=272)	Percentage (%)
Gender	Male	135	49.6
	Female	137	50.4
Age	20 -30 years	180	66.2
	31 - 40 years	87	32.0
	>40 years	5	1.8
Profession	Nurses	83	30.5
	Medical Assistants	94	34.5
	Doctors	95	35.0

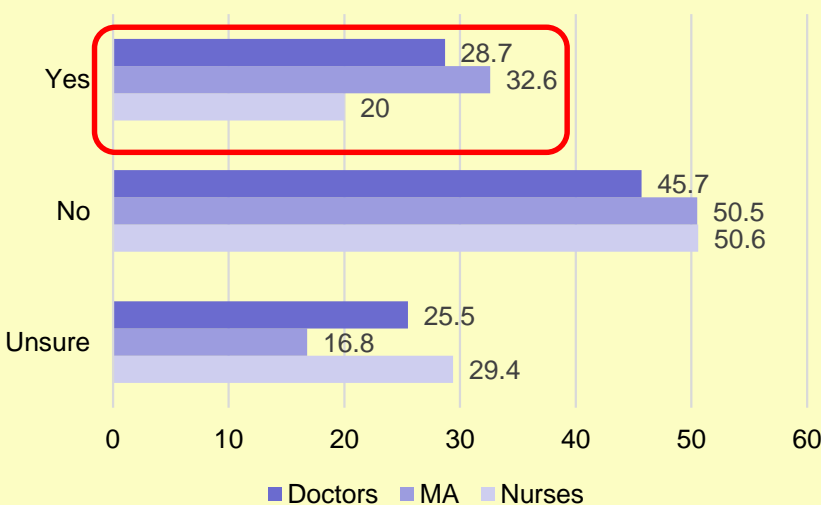
### KNOWLEDGE & ATTITUDE



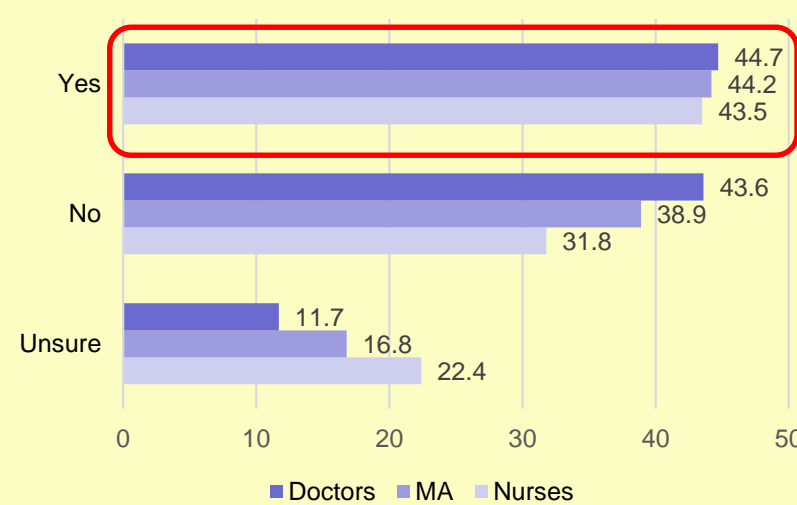
- HCWs are worried of bleeding risks in those with history of gastrointestinal (GI) bleed or hemorrhagic stroke.
- Aspirin 325mg/day versus placebo for 5 years reported an estimated 1% risk of major GI bleed<sup>2</sup>.
- Aspirin given within an hour reduced 30-day mortality<sup>3</sup>.
- Chewing of immediate release (IR) tablets results in platelet aggregation effects within 20 minutes<sup>4</sup>.

## PRACTICE ON ASPIRIN ADMINISTRATION

If patient is allergic to painkillers, would you give aspirin?



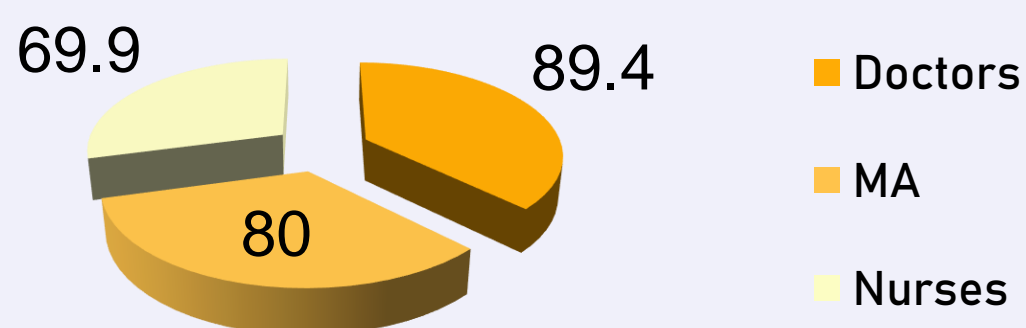
If patient is allergic to specific painkillers (e.g. Ponstan), would you give aspirin?



- Aspirin **CANNOT BE GIVEN** to patients with desquamation of skin or mucous membranes, organ involvement and drug-induced cytopenia<sup>5</sup>.
- Otherwise, HCWs can be educated to give aspirin using a **desensitization protocol**.

## IS ASPIRIN GIVEN FIRST?

% of staff reported Aspirin is always the first drug given (n=272)



## 4. CONCLUSION

**Knowledge:** room for improvement especially in regards to the contra-indications of aspirin.

**Attitude:** higher tendency of serving aspirin in confirmed/suspected ACS cases.

**Practice:** HCWs require reassurance in patients with hyper-sensitivity histories.

## 5. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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