



# Overview of Non-Communicable Diseases in Malaysia

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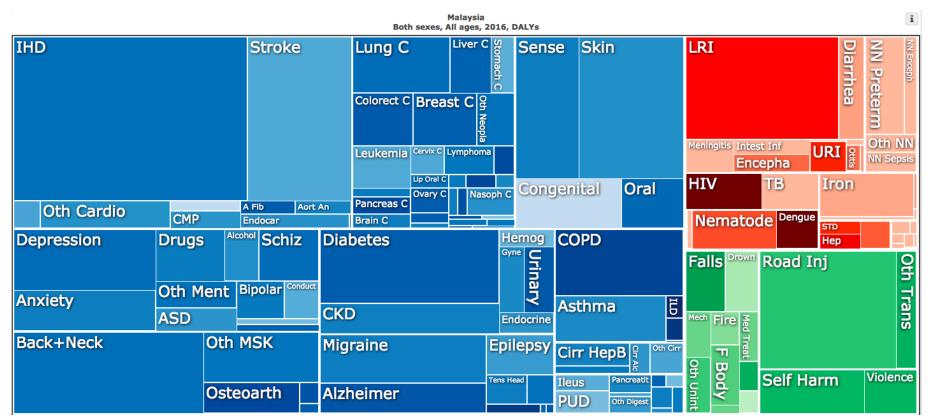
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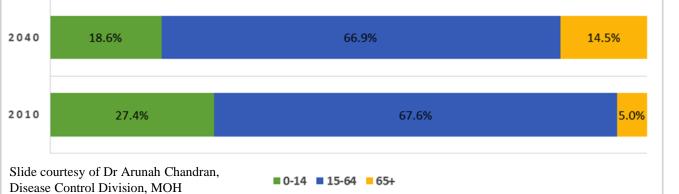
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#### Burden of Disease, Malaysia (2016)





# Issues: Aging Population



# Issues: Rising Burden of Non-Communicable Diseases

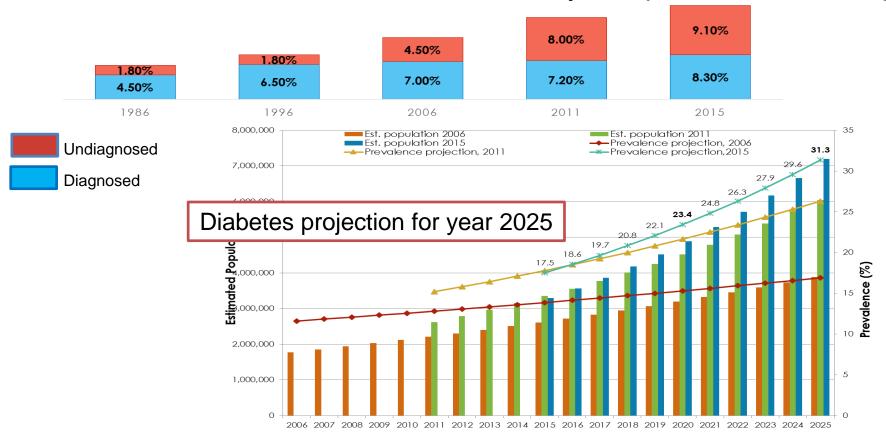


#### Prevalence of Selected NCD Risk Factors

Based on NHMS 2015, amongst the Malaysian adult population (≥18 years):

- 63.6% of men, and 64.5% of women are either overweight or obese
- **43%** of men smoke; 59% of men ages 21-30 smoke
- 43.5% of men, and 52.2% of women have hypercholesterolemia
- 30.8% of men, and 29.7% of women have hypertension
- 16.7% of men, and 18.3% of women have diabetes mellitus

#### Prevalence of Diabetes in Malaysia (1986 to 2015)

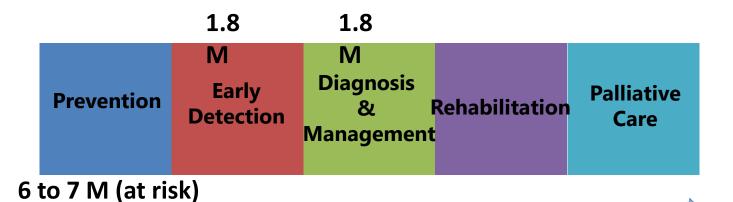


#### Spectrum for NCD Prevention & Control



#### Spectrum for NCD Prevention & Control

#### Diabetes in Malaysia as a case study



#### Is it all about knowledge?

**Screening for NCD risk** factors in Malaysia as a case study

Sticks and/or carrots

Knowledge

Behavioural Change

Awareness

Berbanding 1.9 juta baucar saringan kesihatan disediakan Perkeso

#### Hanya 200,000 'jumpa doktor'

Issue:

Health is of Low Priority for

**Malaysians** 

Supportive living environment

Do we really understand, why Malaysians do the things that we do?

NHMS 2015

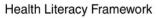
Health literacy is the degree to which individuals have the capacity to obtain, process, and understand basic health information and services needed to make appropriate health decisions<sup>1</sup>

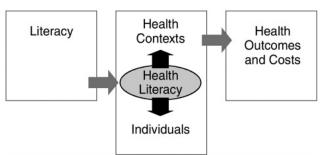
Health literacy affects people's ability to:

- Engage in self-care and chronic-disease management
- Understand mathematical concepts such as probability and risk

Health literacy\*\* 6.6%

\*\*Newest Vital Sign tool





<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. 2000. Healthy People 2010. Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office

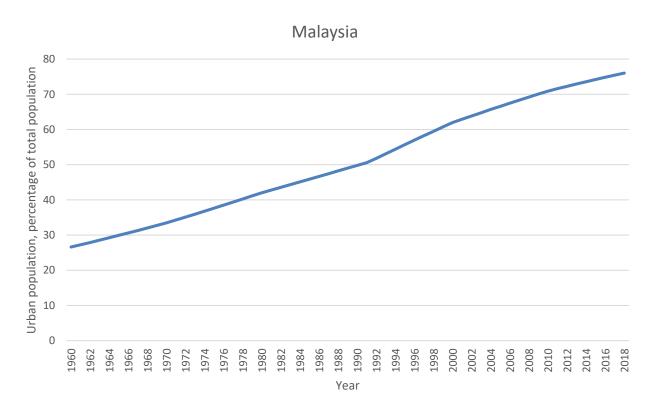
### Ecological public health transitions in Malaysia

- Epidemiological transition
- Urban transition
- Economic transition
- Energy transition
- Nutrition transition
- Cultural transition



Source: http://denmasyan.weebly.com/urban-geography1.html

## Issues: Urbanisation in Malaysia



### The Causation Pathway for NCDs

### Underlying Determinants

- Globalisation
- Urbanisation
- •Population Ageing

#### Common Risk Factors

- Unhealthy diet
- Physical Inactivity
- •Tobacco & Alcohol use
- •Age (non modifiable)
- •Heredity

(non modifiable)

## **Intermediate Risk Factors**

- Overweight/obesity
- Raised blood sugar
- •Raised blood pressure
- Abnormal blood lipids

#### **Main NCDs**

- •Heart Disease
- •Diabetes
- Stroke
- Cancer
- •Chronic resp.

diseases

Asymptomatic

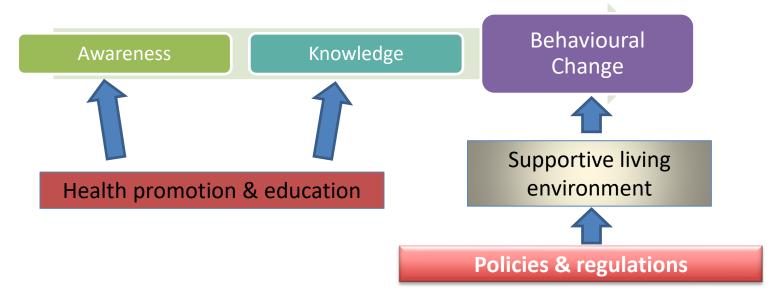
# Life-course perspective – exposure to NCD risk factors





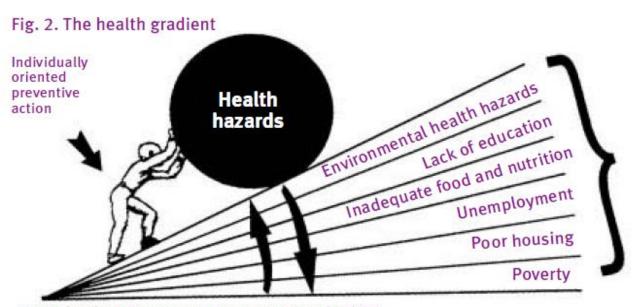
#### Personal choice versus government's responsibility

- Health promotion and education will increase awareness and knowledge
  - However changes in behaviour are strongly influenced by our living environment



If we want people to make healthy choices we have to make healthy choices available, accessible and affordable...

#### Social Determinants of Health



Source: adapted from Making partners: intersectoral action for health (13)



## Summary points

- Malaysians have a very high exposure to NCD risk factors
- The Government has a responsibility to protect the health of the population
  - Focus must be on prevention
  - Empower individuals and communities
  - Health-promoting built or living environment
- We need new partners to find new solutions

# Thank you

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