oo356 Community Health Screenings: Understanding the Post-screening Followup Rate

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Aims: Screenings are pivotal in early detection of diseases and identification of risk factors, allowing effective intervention. It is hence essential for elderly to undergo regular screenings with appropriate follow-up. LKCMedicine and National Healthcare Group(NHG) conducted health-screening for an elderly community in Pek Kio, March 2018 encompassing fall risk, urinary incontinence and colorectal cancer. This study explored the participation and post-screening follow-up rates for these modalities.

Methodology: 3 modalities conducted at the screening were analysed: Timed-Up-and-Go(TUG) test for fall risk, International Consultation on Urinary Incontinence Questionnaire(ICIQ), and distribution of Faecal-Immunochemical Test(FIT) Kit for faecal occult blood.TUG-positive and ICIQ-positive participants were encouraged to follow-up with their doctors and contacted for their follow-up status after 3 months. Information on FIT participation rates were obtained from Singapore Cancer Society(SCS) with participants' consent.

Result: Out of a total of 207 participants, 121 (aged \geq 65) were eligible for TUG test and ICIQ, while 165(aged \geq 50) were eligible for FIT. Of the eligible participants: 92.6% underwent TUG test, 90.9% underwent ICIQ and 80.4% received FIT kits.

For those screened positive in TUG test(16 cases) or ICIQ(34 cases), 37.5% and 26.5% respectively attended follow-up visits with their doctors within 3 months. Another 16.7% were convinced to follow-up after our call. The most common reason cited for not following-up was finding their condition trivial and preferring watchful waiting.

Of the 165 participants who collected the FIT kit, 143(87.2%) submitted their samples to SCS of whom 7 tested positive. Data on follow-up outcomes were unavailable.

Conclusion: Our study illustrated high pick-up rates for modalities screened, and low follow-up rates for TUG and ICIQ compared to FIT. This is possibly due to more time and effort-consuming follow-up options for TUG and ICIQ compared to FIT and participants exhibiting greater concerns towards malignancies. More effort encouraging participants for post-screening follow-up should be done in future.