

HOSPITAL KLUSTER KEDAH SELATAN AS A CATALYST FOR SUSTAINABLE IMPLEMENTATION OF GLOBAL SURGERY INITIATIVE IN SOUTHERN KEDAH.

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1: Hospital Kulim. 2: Hospital Baling.

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Introduction

Hospital Kluster Kedah Selatan (HOKSEL) is a strategic partnership between Hospital Kulim as the Lead Hospital (LH) and Hospital Baling as the Non Lead Hospital (NLH) established in January 2020. HOKSEL is the only inpatient healthcare facility to serve at least a population of 521,900 (2020) from Districts of Kulim, Baling and Bandar Baharu in southern Kedah.

Several initiatives have been implemented under HOKSEL including empowering Daycare Surgery in NLH and Global Surgery Initiative. This is done by utilizing 2 readily available operating theatres in Hospital Baling which have undergone minor renovation with strong support from State Health Department and Ministry of Health Malaysia.

Method

Based on Donabedian's model for quality-of-care evaluation, 3 measures are implemented;

i)Structure

Hospital Cluster governance through Cluster Management Committee (CMC) and Governing Body at state level which monitor HOKSEL performance.

ii)Process

Capitalisation of resources and ensuring accountability.

iii)Outcome

- Number of trained staff.
- Number of operations conducted.
- Improvement in OT waiting time.

Results

Through this initiative, waiting time for cataract and arteriovenous fistulas (AVF) surgeries have been reduced from 9 and 4 months respectively to 1 month. The number of cataract and AVF operations done in LH has reduced significantly from 2020 (AVF: 67 ,Cataract: 728) to 2022 (AVF: 45 ,Cataract: 353) – this would allow more operating time for other procedures such as trauma cases to be done in LH.

Conclusion

Implementation of Global Surgery Initiative in Southern Kedah has been catalysed further by using Hospital Kluster Kedah Selatan. As this provides value added benefit for patients in both Hospital Kulim & Hospital Baling, the implementation of this initiative can be sustained through HOKSEL.