# SURVEY ON KNOWLEDGE AND AWARENESS TOWARDS PRESERVATIVES CONTAIN IN CARBONATED SOFT DRINK TAKEN BY TEENAGERS IN CERTAIN LOCATION IN MALAYSIA

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## ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study was to determine the level of knowledge and to assess the awareness of preservatives in carbonated soft drink taken by teenagers at different towns in Selangor. Convenience sampling was used to select the samples and location. The samples were teenagers aged 15-17 years old. The sample location for Subang Jaya area was Sekolah Sri Sedaya (SSS), Subang Jaya, Selangor while for Sungai Buloh area was Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Bandar Baru Sungai Buloh (SMKBBSB), Sungai Buloh, Selangor. A total of 348 respondents (108 from SSS and 240 from SMKBBSB) were chosen. Data were collected through self-administered questionnaire for SSS and one-to-group administered questionnaire for SMKBBSB. Data was analyzed using SPSS software. Frequency analyses were used to analyze the distribution of the data. Results by questions indicated that majority of the respondents from both towns have limited knowledge on disadvantages and advantage of preservatives in carbonated soft drink. Eighty five point two percent of SSS respondents and ninety point four percent of SMKBBSB respondents fell in the poor level in the level of knowledge analysis. On the other hand, a portion of respondents from both towns was aware of the preservatives in carbonated soft drink. These prevalences might be due to their level of education, education syllabus, less exposure to beverage industry, parental influences, limited educational material and awareness on preservatives in carbonated soft drink. Further studies need to be done to evaluate the reasons of poor knowledge and initiatives to be taken to incorporate general knowledge of preservatives in teenagers.