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e-ISSN: 2421-826X

DOI: 10.15405/epms.2022.10.38

ICONSPADU 2021

International Conference on Sustainable Practices, Development & Urbanization

A LITERATURE REVIEW OF COMMUNITY BASED **REHABILITATION (CBR) RESEARCH IN MALAYSIA**

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Abstract

Community-Based Rehabilitation (CBR) is a program established by the Disabled Development Department (JPPWD), Department of Social Welfare (JKM). It is based on the developmental strategies of all related stakeholders for rehabilitation, training, education, opportunities of equalization and social integration for people with disabilities (PWDs). This program is available across Malaysia with the involvement of the community either at CBR centres or at home with the support of the teachers appointed by CBR. Conducting a comprehensive literature review helps both novice and experienced researchers to select pertinent research methodologies. Therefore, this article is written based on literature review surveys to direct researchers to comprehensively examine the issues of CBRs in Malaysia. The navigation of this review is conducted via Google Scholar database. The scope of the study focuses on the role, effectiveness, perception, expectation of the stakeholders on CBRs. The goal is to also provide some insights onto the issues and discussion involving the role of CBRs in disability facilitations. The LR also serves as a gap analysis, related to CBRs in Malaysia. The findings underlined a gap in the 47 literature related to CBR in Malaysia specifically the inadequacy in teachers' career path, the curriculum and training needs assessment.

2421-826X © 2022 Published by European Publisher.

Keywords: CBR/PDK, disability issues, literature Review, people with disabilities (PWDs)



1. Introduction

The number of registered Person with Disabilities (PWD) in the Department of Social Welfare in Malaysia as of 2018 were 497, 309. However, it is important to note that based on World Health Organization's (WHO) estimation, nearly 1 in 7 people worldwide is categorized as disabled. WHO also estimates about 15% of the world's population lives with some forms of disabilities; with around 4% falls under categories of special needs.

CBR is a program initiated in 1984 by the Disabled Development Department (JPPWD), Department of Social Welfare (JKM). The macro intention of CBRs is based on the development of local communities for rehabilitation, training, education, opportunities equalization and social integration of people with disabilities (PWDs). CBRs are regulated through integrated efforts of disabled persons and all stakeholders especially families, communities and health services, education, vocational and social services. This program is available across Malaysia with the active involvement of the community either at CBR or at home with the support of teachers appointed by CBRs. Since its formulation, CBRs is part of disability inclusions in Malaysia. As of the year 2020, there were 562 CBRs in Malaysia with 20,604 trainees supported by 3,214 Teachers/Workers.

This article is intended to serve as a gap analysis, in order to update research related to PWD in Malaysia particularly in the area of CBR in Malaysia.

2. Problem Statement

Since 1984, it is important to point the insufficient in-depth studies revolving the complexities of CBRs in Malaysia due to the inability to employ thorough methodologies. Good research requires trained investigators who could articulate relevant research questions, operationally define variables of interest, and elect the best method for specific research questions. Conducting an appropriate literature review helps both novice and experienced researchers to select relevant research methodologies. Therefore, this article is transcribed based on a literature review surveys to guide researchers who plan to study the holistic issues of CBRs in Malaysia.

3. Research Questions

i. What are the general documented literature reviews as evidence that detailed the issues surrounding the issues of CBRs in Malaysia?

4. Purpose of the Study

The main purpose of this study is to present literature review on CBR in Malaysia through a review of all sources listed in the database. Conducting a fitting literature review helps both novice and experienced researchers select rigorous research methodologies. Accordingly, this article is written based on literature review surveys to guide researchers that study the holistic issues of CBRs in Malaysia.

5. Research Methods

The navigation of this review is conducted through Google Scholar database. The methodology employed adhered to Lateef and Mhlongo (2020) as well as the TRNA methodology of ECDC (2017) as a framework to conduct the search process. Three research keywords were used which include:

- (i) "Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR) Malaysia"
- (ii) "Pemulihan Dalam Komuniti (PDK)" / "Pusat Pemulihan Dalam Komuniti (PPDK)"
- (iii) "Training Needs Analysis (TNA)"

List of literature and research were retrieved from Google Scholar database. The search keywords were inputted to obtain related articles. Articles related to TNA but not related to CBD Malaysia and PDK/PPDK were excluded. The search were limited to articles published from 2007 onwards in English and Malay language. Automatic updates of the search were setup in the database up until 2021.

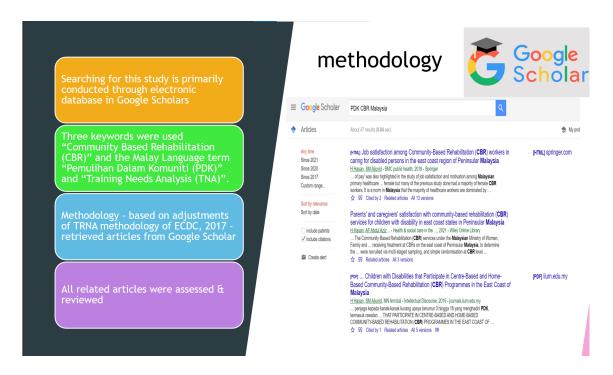


Figure 1. The Methodology

As indicated in Figure 1, three keywords were used: Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR) which also include the Malay language acronym of PDK/PPDK. Another keyword used was Training Needs Analysis (TNA) in order to gauge the overall aspects of the study. The specific strategies used stated in the following Table 1.

Concept	Booleon Operator	Concept 2
OR		OR
(PDK OR PPDK)		'teacher'
		'guru'
	AND	'community'
		'OKU'
		'Disabled'
		'welfare department'
		'JKM'
(CBR Malaysia)	AND	'teacher'
		'community'
		'welfare'
		'disabled'
		'training'
		'OKU'
TNA	AND	'PPDK'
		'PDK'
		'CBR'
		'special needs teachers'
		' 'Guru'

Table 1. The specific strategies used

Limits : English OR Malay language

Inclusion criteria of literature that:

(i) Focuses on CBR in Malaysia.

(ii) Contains issues related with CBR/PDK/PPDK in Malaysia.

(iii) TNA related to CBR/PDK/PPDK in Malaysia.

(iv) Describes and include TNA relevant to CBR/PDK/PPDK in Malaysia.

6. Findings: Literature Review on CBR Malaysia

Based on Google Scholar database, 47 articles and monograph related to CBR/PDK in Malaysia were extracted, detailed and reviewed. From the 47 sources, 15 were found to be consistent and relevant to examine on CBR/PDK. From the 15, 6 articles namely (Bury, 2005; Dort et al., 2013; Hasan et al., 2019; Hamza et al., 2011; Kamaruddin, 2007) were eliminated as the core issues not directly related to CBR/PDK.

From the 9 sources, 3 were PhD and Master thesis and the remaining 6 were based on survey and research as well as case studies. Extracts from the 9 sources are detailed below:

Ahmad et al. (2021) studied on 4 selected CBR services centre in Seremban. This study as stated in the article aimed to examine the level of effectiveness of CBR and to determine the relationship between participation level, module and syllabus, social workers, social support system and the effectiveness of CBR program on 4 selected centres in Seremban, Negeri Sembilan. The sample of the study comprised of 121 respondents who were the parents of the trainees. The research method used purposive sampling as the parents are relevant to deliver the information required for the study. Based on the input obtained from 121 parents, the results found that trainees are indeed showing moderate levels of effectiveness within the CBR program. The finding reveals a significant correlation of participation level,

module and syllabus, social workers and social support system with the level of effectiveness of CBR program. The study also found that the participation of trainees had the highest correlation with the level of effectiveness of the CBR in Seremban. Therefore, the trainee's participation level should be the main focus as it is the most essential part in the successful implementation of the program.

Abdul Latifa et al. (2020) on the other hand discussed that rehabilitation and intervention therapy as a program medically structured for disabled patients due to unfortunate events or born with disabilities. Rehabilitation and intervention therapy usually is time-consuming, difficult, costly, and tedious. Based on studies conducted, rehabilitation and intervention programs are not well-received by many patients due to some reasons. Hence, innovative home-based and community-based rehabilitation and intervention programs are to be advocated and endorsed to engage these disabled patients continuing their required treatments for better success in rehab. Focus groups consist of three community-based rehabilitation centres in Putrajaya, Malaysia, were studied; the goal is to investigate the objectivity of current rehabilitation and intervention programs held. Rehabilitation and intervention programs conducted are designed and implemented based on the disability types of each patient (trainees), executed by teachers, and also professional therapists. Among the many programs conducted, it had been identified that for revamp; it can be done within one of the programs, which will boost the current rehabilitation and intervention program; the focus should be at the Prepare for School program. The program focuses on younger trainees (aged 5 - 9 years old), preparing them to enter government school. The change is imperative and necessitated for community-based rehabilitation and intervention programs.

Er Yeap et al. (2017) focuses on research specified on the speech-language pathologists which underlined; in order to work better together with CBR workers, there is a necessity to understand what they perceive as their training needs for people with communication disability (PWCD). A cross-sectional written survey was conducted in 2013 with 421 Malaysian workers, using convenient sampling and a mixed-method approach. Results shows that an in-depth information on training needs from descriptive analysis of quantitative data and content analysis of qualitative data were obtained and discussed. This study, although not generalizable, builds up the literature on worker training needs in developing countries, and would constructive for speech-language pathologists and worker trainers.

Hasan and Aljunid (2019) aimed to explore the job satisfaction level among CBR staff and the associated factors related to their overall job satisfaction. All of CBR workers were satisfied with their job serving people with disabilities. It is also important to note that the performance of the CBR workers were not affected despite the low satisfaction level on the salary scale and the nature of the demanding work. Although the mean score was low on the factor of 'the salary of CBR workers was acceptable', but the mean score was high on the factor of 'providing rehabilitation services as promised' which indicated that the participants felt they provided rehabilitation services of good quality despite being dissatisfied with their salary. Thus, this study indicates "an empirical evidence that salary and challenging work were negatively associated with job satisfaction." However, the findings in this study did not explore all outcome that may have been demonstrated by the CBR workers towards their job satisfaction.

Jaafar et al. (2021) studied was conducted in East Coast of Peninsular Malaysia and was intended to determine the outcome of CBR and its associated factors among children with disability. Outcome of rehabilitation was determined with regard to changes in activity of daily living ability with the use of the

Barthel Index at 6 months post-CBR. Analysed factors were age, baseline score of the Barthel Index, frequency of attendance in therapy sessions and number of therapy received. The data was analysed using paired t-test, Wilcoxon signed ranks test and Spearman correlation test. A total of 220 children with disability aged 4 to 18 years and 220 caretakers from 29 selected CBR centres in Pahang, Terengganu and Kelantan participated in this study. The findings revealed that the CBRs are too small for the duration of rehabilitation implemented. The execution of CBR programs need to be reviewed and enhanced to improve its effectiveness on children with disability.

Kuno (1998) discussed the importance of the participation of disabled people is accepted in terms of the philosophy of CBR, which is the most demanding aspect to implement in CBR. In fact, there are several obstacles to realise it. For instance, in Indonesia, people with disabilities who participate as contributors were mainly the people with mild or moderate physical impairments, and others were still excluded. The five factors are poor accessibility, insufficiency of training on disability; conventional circumstances to prevent participation in general; lack of consciousness of collective action building, and the lack of management capacity among disabled people. Although these five factors are relevant to explain the causes of the restrictions of participation of disabled people in general, it does not appear to explain the difference of participation between CBR in Malaysia and Indonesia. In a comparison of these two CBR programmes, two factors can be identified as primary causes: the goal setting of programmes, and the existence of facilitators in the communities.

Kuno (2007) provided one of the most comprehensive documentations and analysis on CBR in Malaysia and commenced in many developing countries. Kuno has been involved in the field of disability in Malaysia for over 20 years. His active involvement comprises various programs to support people with disabilities in becoming agents of social change in Malaysia especially in CBR and Disability Equality Training (DET), which targets to familiarize participants with the social model of disability. He has had particularly a great impact on their intellectual and behaviour; consequently aim to create an inclusive society in Malaysia.

Said (2012) looks into the determinant factors influencing caregivers' participation in communitybased rehabilitation programmes which explored the direct and indirect variables. This is a correlation study and the HBM was used as a research framework. Fourteen CBR centres were randomly selected using stratified random sampling. Data was collected through a self-administered questionnaire from 299 randomly selected caregivers from CBRC who met the inclusion criteria. The finding indicated that there is a direct effect of "cues for action" on caregiver participation in CBR. The caregivers opined that CBR programme has significantly minimized the severity of disability, thus, improved the quality of life of CWSN. Cost-effective strategies must be formulated to increase the participation among caregivers. It is also noted that an improved information transmission through social support networks helps to enhance knowledge and self-efficacy to increase participation among caregivers. Implementation of the program should be coordinated to tailor the caregivers and CWD needs to overcome barriers and enhance the perceived benefit of participation. This study provides the implications for CBR programme planners and providers with regards to the importance of information in enhancing participation.

Ting (2014) assess the nutritional status of PWD, develop and evaluate the effectiveness of Nutrition Module for Trainers of Persons with Disabilities in community-based rehabilitation (CBR)

centres, Kelantan. This study included three phases. At Phase I, nutrition assessment of PWD in CBR centres, Kelantan was conducted. A total of 467 PWD (281 children and adolescents; 186 adults) were recruited and their feeding and anthropometric data were collected using a structured questionnaire. Teachers' positive personal attributes were identified as the primary motivation while the PWD's resistance to teachers' positive nutrition management and lack of parental social support were the major barriers. It can be concluded that, this nutrition module is effective on improving the nutrition knowledge, attitude and practice of CBR teachers in Kelantan.

7. Summary of Discussion

Based on the result, there is a clear need to broaden the perspectives of issues surrounding CBR research. There is no clear focus on the effectiveness and overall needs of the teachers of CBRs in Malaysia. There is also insufficient preliminary study that focuses on the curriculum enhancement and the holistic aspect of training needs analysis which is highly significant after more than 3 decades of its formation. Based on the search, the studies were mostly based on the effectiveness of CBR, Parents' Perception & Job Satisfaction of Teachers/Workers. This survey can be achieved by other methodologies– desk-based reviews, interviews with stakeholders and roundtable discussion.

8. Conclusion

It is important to acknowledge the importance of CBR in Malaysia especially for the betterment of the disabled children. It is an institution that greatly contributes to the betterment of the nation. Therefore, as very few studies related to CBR, it is important to move towards a more high-quality research in CBR in Malaysia. This is clearly an interesting challenge to be addressed to create a more and truly inclusive "Malaysian Family".

Acknowledgments

This paper and the research behind it would not have been possible without the exceptional support of President & Vice Chancellor of Unisel and the MBI-Semesta research grant. This research was supported under Universiti Selangor's MBI-Semesta Grant which is funded by the Kumpulan Semesta Sdn. Bhd. The opinions contained in this document are those of the researchers and do not necessarily reflect those of the Universiti Selangor (Unisel), MBI and Kumpulan Semesta Sdn. Bhd

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