

The Barriers Affect People to Join Co-pay Health Screening in the Community

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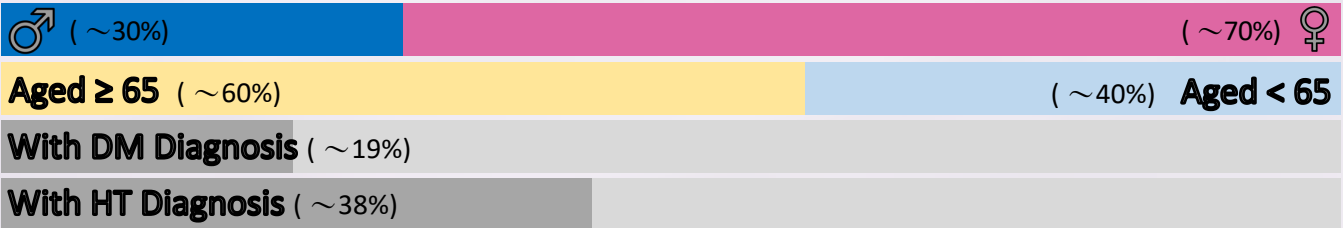
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Diabetes (DM) and hypertension (HT) are two common chronic diseases that can lead to serious health complications if left untreated. Preventative screenings for these conditions are readily available, yet many people do not attend these screenings. To better understand the reasons behind this trend, the Tai Po District Health Centre Express investigated our internal database.

2670 members aged 6-97 who participated in routine Health Risk Factor Assessment from October 2021 to February 2023. Of these members, 1161 and 295 were eligible for diabetes and hypertension screenings, respectively. Members who refused to participate in these screenings were asked about their reasons for not attending.

Background Data of 2670 Assessed Members



Screening Participation Status

	DM	HT
Eligible Member	1161	295
Actual Screening	114	33
Participating Rate	9.8%	11.1%

Reason of Not Attending Co-pay Health Screening

(in descending order)

1. Opt to check-up in clinics of Hospital Authority
2. Difficulty in scheduling appointments
3. Lack of perceived risk
4. Negative feeling on the diagnoses process

Barriers Identified (in descending order)

1. Free or minimal-cost medical coverage provided by Hospital Authority
2. Knowledge deficiency
3. Inconvenience to service user

Recommendations

- 💡 Widen member base
 - To include younger generations who are outside Hospital Authority service net
- 💡 Increase incentives
 - To attract patient to treat in the community
- 💡 Educating individuals on their personal risk factors
 - To enhance correct understanding of the health risks of chronic diseases
- 💡 Addressing logistical barriers
 - To explore a more “user-friendly” way of screening
 - To increase flexibility and streamline screening process

(Keywords: Community Health, Health Screening, Willingness to Join)

Let's develop a Healthy Lifestyle!