

KOLOKIU PENYELIDIKAN 2021
INSTITUT TADBIRAN AWAM NEGARA



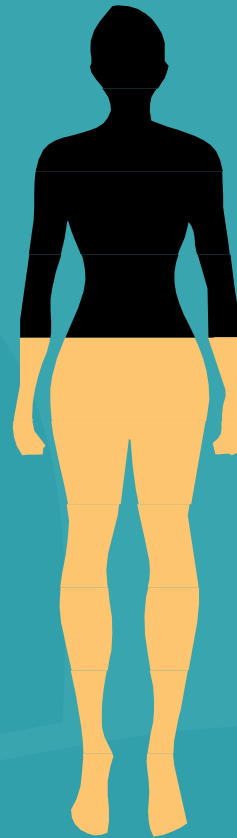
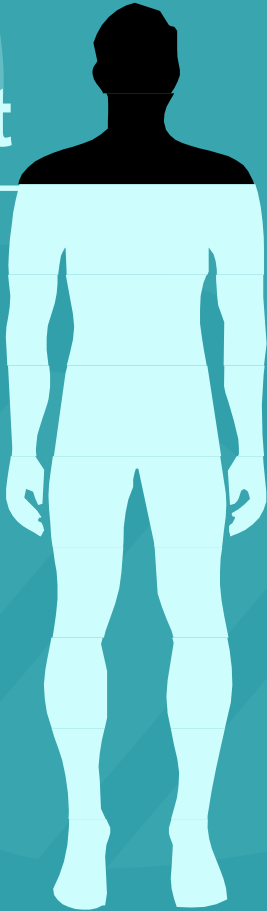
**ISSUES AND CHALLENGES IN HEALTH RISK
MANAGEMENT OF COMMUNICABLE
DISEASES AMONGST FOREIGN WORKERS
IN MALAYSIA**

MASTURA BINTI MOHD DAN | OCTOBER 2021
KEMENTERIAN PERTAHANAN MALAYSIA

National TB Budget

**US\$16
million**

**100% domestically
funded**



WHO, 2018

**TB listed as the mortality
and burden of diseases
present in Malaysia.**

25,173 notified cases

Research Problem



Communicable diseases can cause outbreak within the society and potentially globally (World Health Organization, 2017).

Migrant workers have a higher chance of contracting and transmitting infectious diseases (Sadarangani et. al., 2017) which pose challenges to the public health (Morens et. al., 2004) and therefore it is vital that receiving countries manage the risk diseases brought in through detection and control (Morens et. al., 2014; Sadarangani, 2017).

Source: https://theleaders-online.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/frontliners-890x700_c.png

Active documented foreign workers

1,994,566 (as of 31 October 2019)

VP(TE) 2014-2018

141,577/5,819,426(2.43%) failed to obtain VP(TE)

Research Objectives

RESEARCH OBJECTIVE 1

To explore and understand the issues and challenges in managing foreign workers that failed medical screening for VP(TE) applicants

R01



RESEARCH OBJECTIVE 2

To enhance the current guideline in an effort to reduce health risk of communicable disease from the perspective of public health management

R02



Research Questions

01

What are the issues and challenges in terms of health risk management

1a – To what extent does communicable diseases prevalence among migrant workers pose a threat to the public?

1b – What are the precautions that can be taken to reduce possibility of transmitting communicable diseases from foreign workers?

02

What are the challenges link with the repatriation of migrant workers

03

To what extent is the system effective in managing foreign workers?

Risk Management Framework

Risk Management

Risk Assessment

Risk Analysis

- Identify hazards and threats
- Identify hazardous events
- Determine frequencies and consequences
- Establish risk picture

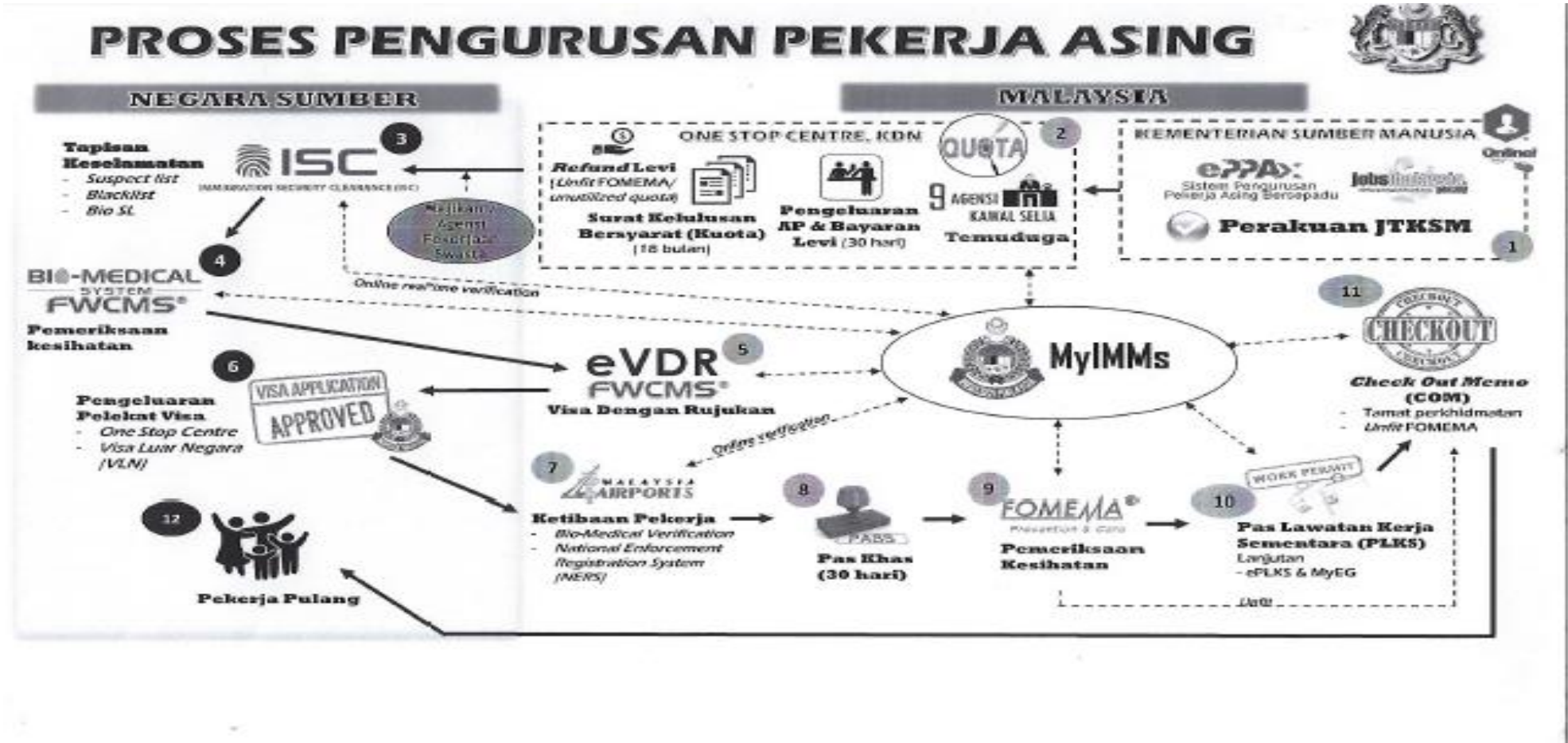
Risk Evaluation

- Evaluate risk (against risk acceptance criteria)
- Propose risk reducing measures
- Assess alternative risk-reducing measures

Risk Control

- Make decisions related to risk-reducing measures
- Implement measures
- Monitor effects
- Communicate risk

Foreign Workers Management Process



Source: Ministry of Home Affairs, Malaysia

Application Procedures

AT SOURCE COUNTRY

Immigration Security Clearance (ICS)

Medical Checkup

- Valid 3 months from date of issuance

Visa with Reference (VDR)

- Issued by Department of Immigration, Malaysia

IN MALAYSIA

Visitor Pass (Temporary Employment)

I-KAD

FOMEMA

- Within 30 days upon arrival

Entry/ Exit

- At designated entry points
- Employers to ensure clearance process within 24 hours of arrival time

Issues and Challenges of Health Risk Management of Communicable Diseases Amongst Foreign Workers In Malaysia

Qualitative Approach

Case Study Method

Risk Management Theory

Technique:
Semi structured interview,
Document analysis

Case Selection

Develop Interview Protocol

Data Collection

Thematic Analysis

Report Writing

Develop Revised Guideline

Data Collection Strategy

DATA COLLECTION: Qualitative Approach, Case Study Method

Technique:

[*Semi-structured interview, Document Analysis*]

Data Collection	Data Analysis
<p>Phase 1: Documents from governing bodies</p> <p>Phase 2: Semi-Structured Interview</p>	<p>Thematic content analysis, document analysis</p>



Findings

RQ1a) To what extent does communicable diseases prevalence among foreign workers post a threat to the public?



RQ1b) What are the precautions that can be taken to reduce possibility of transmitting communicable diseases from foreign workers?

Current practice	Proposed action
24 hours Employers to ensure clearance process are completed	Upon arrival Sent to quarantine centers (maximum 14 days)
30 days FOMEMA medical screening	48 hours Chest x-ray
	14 days FOMEMA medical screening

RQ2) What are the challenges linked with the repatriation of foreign workers



RQ3) To what extent is the system effective in managing foreign workers?

A

MyIMMs

Aging system (since 1995)
Patch on systems
Unable to revoke VP(TE)

B

FWCMS

Data belongs to government but held by developer

C

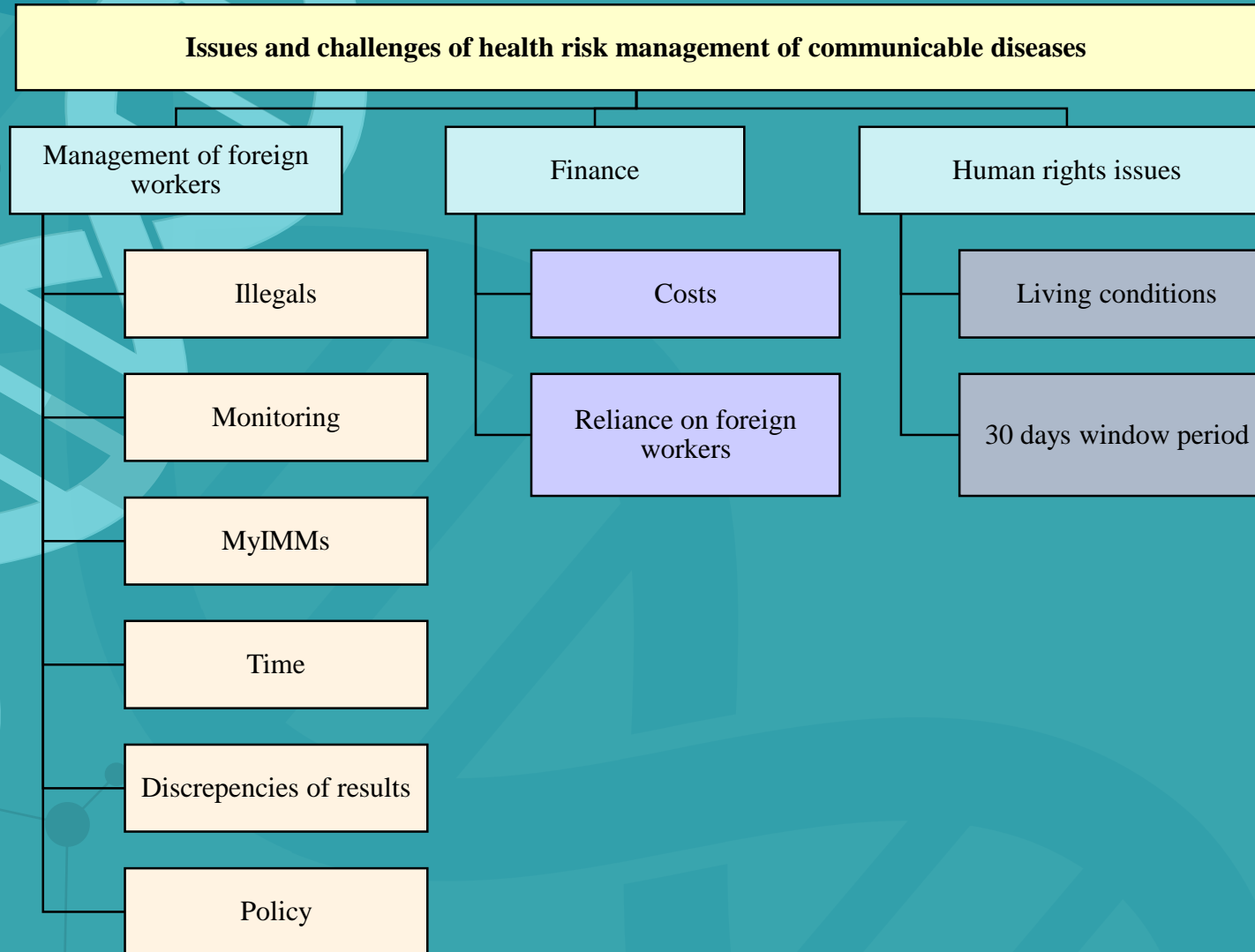
FOMEMA

Analog and digital x-ray images
Allows for change of medical screening results

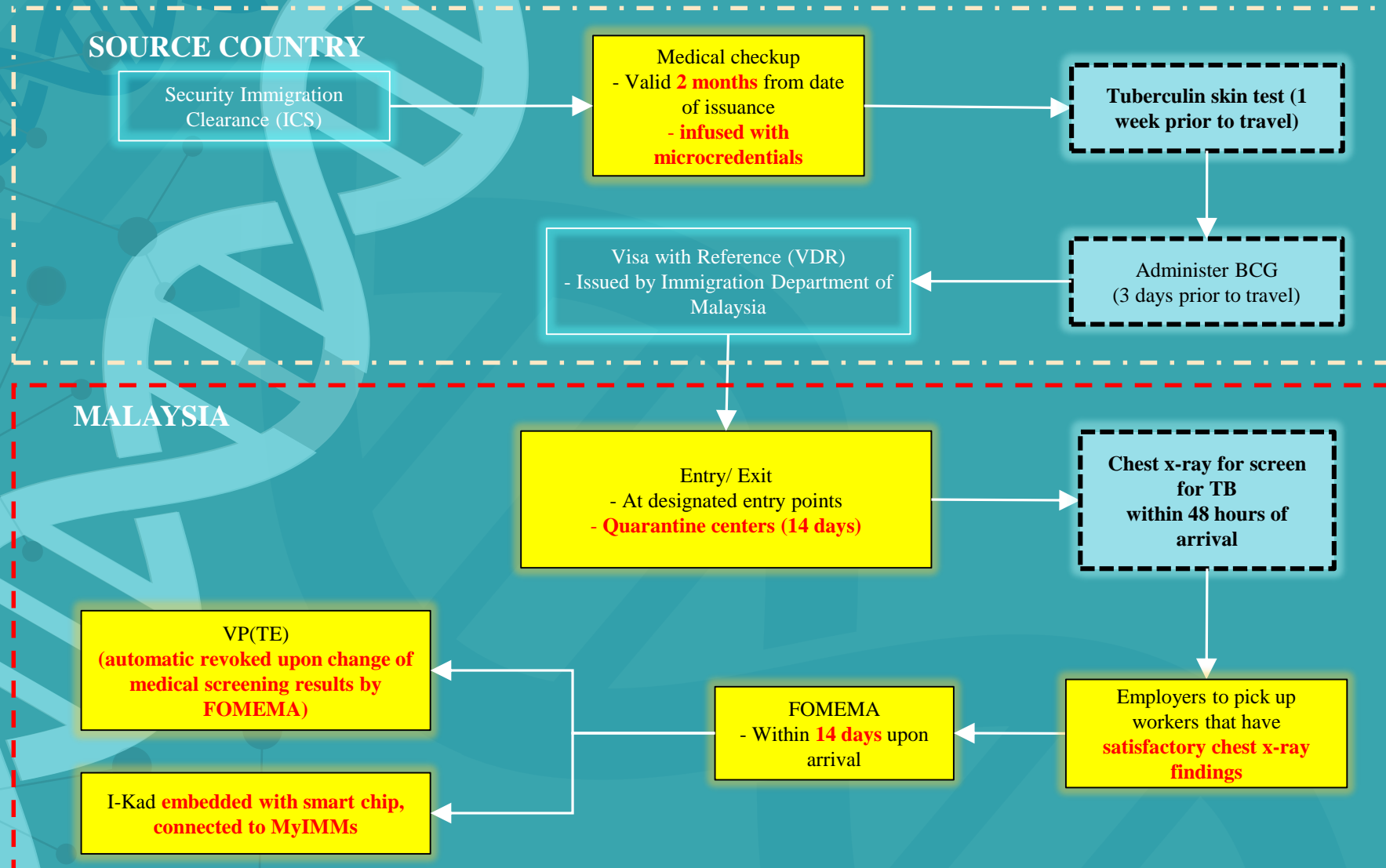


Recommendations

Themes and sub-themes



Proposed Revised Guideline



Research Contributions

i. Theory and Knowledge

- **Meaningful link between risk management and foreign workers management**

ii. Practice

- A framework on foreign workers medical screening flow is proposed to enhance the current guideline for consideration of policy makers and implementors

Future Research

A

Policy analysis → Medical needs

B

Compare and contrast health programs

C

Foreign workers medical related issues

Conclusion

The Government as well as industry players should work together to reduce dependency on foreign workers in the low- and unskilled work sectors and to enhance the management of foreign workers for their own well-being as well as human rights



Thank You



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