

## ENCYCLOPEDIA OF WOMEN AND ISLAMIC CULTURES

### Healthcare in Southeast Asia: Indonesia, Malaysia, Brunei

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- ❖ Malaysia has a two-tier health care system. Within this system the government provides basic health care needs (check-ups, immunizations) free of charge, there is also the option to buy additional coverage which covers a greater number of services and medical procedures. Malaysia's 2014 infant mortality rate, an indicator used to measure health care, is 3.5 deaths per 1000 lives versus the U.S. which is 5.6. The 2014 life expectancy for men is 72.7 years and for women is 77.3 years.<sup>123</sup>
- ❖ Malaysia's maternal mortality rates decreased by 45 percent between 1990 and 2010 from 53 deaths per 100,000 live births to 29 deaths per 100,000 live births. The country now has one of the lowest maternal mortality rates in the region.<sup>4</sup>
- ❖ Indonesia's single-payer health care insurance program is expected to be the largest in the world by 2019. Under the new health care system, the government provides universal health care to its 247 million citizens. Health care coverage in basic (class 3) health facilities is universally accessible to low-income or unemployed Indonesians, however, employers and wealthier citizens are required to pay their own premiums.<sup>5</sup>
- ❖ Fertility has declined in Indonesia from 3.0 children per woman in 1988-1991 to 2.2 children per woman in 2005. The median age for first marriage for women is 20.2 years and the median age for first child is 21.9 years of age.<sup>6</sup>
- ❖ Between 2010-2011, Brunei Darussalam introduced the National Health Care Plan to meet the needs of the growing population and rising costs of medical care. Basic healthcare services are provided free to citizens and the government also covers costs for specialized medical treatment outside of the country. Brunei has met all of the World Health Organization health indicators which include low infant mortality rate and increased life expectancy at birth.<sup>7</sup>
- ❖ Brunei's 2014 infant mortality rate is 4.7 infant deaths per 1,000 male births and 3.6 infant deaths per 1,000 female births. The 2014 life expectancy for men is 76.6 years and for women is 80.4 years.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> 2012 [http://www.wpro.who.int/asia\\_pacific\\_observatory/hits/series/Malaysia\\_Health\\_Systems\\_Review2013.pdf](http://www.wpro.who.int/asia_pacific_observatory/hits/series/Malaysia_Health_Systems_Review2013.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> October 31 2014 <http://esa.un.org/unpd/wpp/unpp/p2k0data.asp>

<sup>3</sup> October 16, 2002 [http://www.who.int/health\\_financing/documents/malaysia-reform-initiatives.pdf](http://www.who.int/health_financing/documents/malaysia-reform-initiatives.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> November 14 2014 [http://www.womendeliver.org/assets/WD2013\\_Malaysia\\_Asia-Pacific\\_Fact\\_Sheet.pdf](http://www.womendeliver.org/assets/WD2013_Malaysia_Asia-Pacific_Fact_Sheet.pdf)

<sup>5</sup> Accessed January 16 2014 <http://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/features/2014/01/indonesia-innovative-healthcare-scheme-201411485331598453.html>

<sup>6</sup> November 2007 [http://www.who.int/countryfocus/cooperation\\_strategy/ccs\\_indonesia\\_2007\\_2011\\_en.pdf](http://www.who.int/countryfocus/cooperation_strategy/ccs_indonesia_2007_2011_en.pdf)

<sup>7</sup> Accessed November 7, 2014 <http://www.moh.gov.bn/>