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**Work Related Musculoskeletal Disorders (WMSDs) among bus drivers at the central bus stand Colombo, Sri Lanka**Udayana WS<sup>1</sup>, Fernandopulle KHBP<sup>2</sup><sup>1</sup>Department of Allied Health Sciences, Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura,<sup>2</sup>Department of Pathology, Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura

**Objectives:** WMSDs are common among Bus Drivers since bus driving requires repetitive movements of the limbs/head and long-term sitting in the same posture. Objectives of this study were to determine the prevalence of WMSDs among bus-drivers at the Central Bus Stand in Colombo and identify associated risk factors.

**Methods:** A descriptive cross-sectional study was conducted using interviewer-administered pre-tested questionnaire among bus drivers at the Central Bus Stand.

**Results:** 119 Government and 131 Private Sector drivers were questioned. Most of the participants (78.4%) suffered from different kinds of musculoskeletal pains. Of these 49.6% of the participants suffered lower back pain, 38.1% from knee pain, 35.2% from shoulder pain, 29.2% upper back pain, 25.2% neck pain, 25.2% ankle pain, 12.8% wrist pain, and 8% from elbow pain. Only 22.8% of bus-drivers have sought medical help. 20% were visiting Western medicine doctors and 7.2% were taking Ayurveda treatment. 16.4% of bus drivers took over the counter medicines without doctor's prescription and 12.8% were taking alcohol for pain relief. The presence of pain was significantly related to driving in traffic ( $p=0.008$ ), type of seat ( $p=0.009$ ) and bus company (Govt /Pvt) ( $p=0.011$ ) There was no correlation between occurrence of pain and BMI of bus-drivers ( $p=0.87$ ), total distance travelled per month ( $p=0.64$ ), size of the bus ( $p=0.25$ ), age ( $p=0.325$ ). 25.6% of drivers were not satisfied with the driving-seat, 16% with the clutch, 4.8% with gears, 4.4% with steering wheel. There is no access to medical care at the Bus Stand.

**Conclusions:** Majority (78.4%) complained of pain affecting one or more areas. The most prevalent areas were lower back, knee, shoulder, upper back, ankle and neck. Majority do not take treatment. The only correlations with pain were travelling in traffic, type of the seat and bus company. Government policies to improve work conditions to reduce WMSDs need to be in place as well as making available medical help onsite to bus drivers.

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**Knowledge, attitudes and practices regarding management of childhood diarrhoea among mothers attending the MOH clinics in Ambalangoda area**Jayamali C<sup>1</sup>, Jayawardane P<sup>2</sup><sup>1</sup>Department of Allied Health Sciences, Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura,<sup>2</sup>Department of Pharmacology, Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura

**Objectives:** The aim of this study was to assess the maternal knowledge, attitude and practices regarding management of childhood diarrhoea in Ambalangoda MOH area, Southern Province, Sri Lanka.

**Methods:** This study was conducted as a descriptive cross-sectional study in Ambalangoda MOH area between October 2015 and December 2015. Three hundred eighty four mothers who had five years or less than five years old children were recruited for the study. Data was collected using an interviewer administered questionnaire. Data are presented as descriptive summary statistics.

**Results:** Three hundred and eighty four mothers were recruited for the study. The mean age of the mothers was 26.17 years (SD $\pm$  4.59) and 41.1% ( $n=158$ ) mothers had an education up to advanced level. Of the study sample 48.69% ( $n=187$ ) had a moderate level of knowledge and 43.75 ( $n=168$ ) had a good level of knowledge regarding management of diarrhea. Only 42.91% ( $n=165$ ) mothers stated that they use Jeewani as an oral rehydration therapy commonly. Information of ORS was well disseminated however only (52.6%) of the mothers had an adequate knowledge on preparation of oral rehydration salts. Majority of mothers (92.18%) had a good knowledge regarding preventive practices of diarrhoea.

**Conclusions:** Majority of the mothers knew proper management of diarrhea however only 43% used Jeewani in the management of diarrhea of their children. Only 53% followed proper instructions when preparing Jeewani. Though knowledge on diarrhea management among the study sample was satisfactory and knowledge-on proper use of ORS needs to be strengthened.