

PP 005

TITLE: The knowledge related to reproductive health in a selected sample of student population attending the medical centre of University of Sri Jayewardenepura

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INTRODUCTION AND OBJECTIVE: To describe the knowledge about reproductive health of students of the University of Sri Jayewardanepura.

METHOD: A cross sectional descriptive study was carried out among 450 students, following study courses during 2014 and 2015. Data were collected by a self-administered, anonymous and pre-tested questionnaire. Students completed the questionnaires on arrival for a consultation on a voluntary basis. All completed questionnaires were collected in a sealed box.

RESULTS: The response was 73.5% (331/450). M:F ratio 1:2.09. Most respondents did not have correct knowledge on puberty. Knowledge differed according to the source of information; informal source was associated with misinformation, while medical and informational sources were associated with better knowledge. Of the respondents, 46(21.1%) reported having sexual intercourse before marriage; 36 males and 10 females. Most had not used any method (60.6%) to prevent conception or Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD). 12.1% used condoms and 12.1% used emergency contraceptive pill. General level of awareness of emergency contraceptive pills was 32.3% (107/331). Misinformation regarding contraceptive methods was high. However, 4 students (16.6%) had used emergency contraceptive pills themselves or had a partner who had used them. The majority of students (57%) did not know symptoms of STD.

CONCLUSION: Results indicated that 20.3% of the university students are sexually active and their knowledge about reproductive health was not satisfactory. Therefore, it is important to design programs to increase the knowledge of reproductive health and HIV prevention strategies that target university students at the University of Sri Jayewardenepura

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PP 006

TITLE: Factors influence the Knowledge on expanded program of Immunization (EPI) among mothers in a selected suburban area

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INTRODUCTION AND OBJECTIVE: The expanded program of immunization (EPI) is a national priority program of Sri Lanka, delivered by ministry of Health with extensive involvement of public health sector with primary health care workers. But the awareness and knowledge of the parents on various aspects of the immunization plays a pivotal role in effective delivery of this to the community. The objectives were to assess the knowledge on EPI schedule and determine the factors influence the knowledge among mothers in a selected suburban population.

METHOD: Descriptive cross sectional analysis

RESULTS: Total number 228 mothers participated,* while majority (82.9%) of them were Sinhala buddhists. Out of them 94.3% were married and 50% of them had only one child. The knowledge on timing and effect of the BCG vaccine was the best and on DT vaccine was worst. Majority (93.4%) of them knew the need for stay 20 minutes, to observe for allergic reactions. Out of all 89% knew when not to vaccinate and how to look after following vaccination. Among them only 02 were not formally educated while majority (124) of them were educated up to Advanced level. The factors identified to influence the knowledge are education level, number of children in the family, ethnicity and exposure to mass media. Out of all significant association was seen only with educational level (P=0.001)

CONCLUSIONS: The maternal knowledge on EPI schedule is satisfactory and the most important factor influence that knowledge is educational level

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