

The CIENTIFIC SESSIONS 2017

"Building Bridges for Better Health"

Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of Sri Jayewardenepura in collaboration with Colombo South Teaching Hospital Sri Jayewardenepura General Hospital Base Hospital, Homagama

Book of Proceedings

24th - 25th May 2017











Methods: Moodle based self-administered questionnaire was given to new medical students who joined the Faculty of Medicine, University of Kelaniya in 2017.

Results: There were 155 students in the batch where 66 (43%) were males. Thirty-nine percent (n=60) had used GES before entering to the faculty, among them 20% used GES at least once a month and 55% reported to have at least an average skill level. Twenty-one percent (n=32) had used VES, among them 20% used it at least once and 24 % reported to have at least an average skill level. Ten percent (n=15) had used AS, among them 13% used it at least once and 11% reported to have at least an average skill level. Students had used GES more than VES (P<0.01) and AS (P<0.01), and VES more than AS (P=0.01) before entering to the faculty.

Conclusions: The majority of students had not used GES, VES and AS before entering to the faculty and it would be beneficial to teach this software to medical students. Self-assessment of skill level can underestimate or overestimate the actual skill level of the student and can be identified as a limitation of the study.

OP 5

Factors associated with the level of inhibitory control in elderly people living in elderly care institutions in Galle District, Sri Lanka

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Objectives: The proportion of elderly people living in institutions has increased in Sri Lanka during the recent decades as a result of population aging and ongoing sociocultural changes. Cognitive functions that are important for goal directed behavior will be increasingly important for independent living. Inhibitory control of irrelevant information (IC) is such cognitive process vital for this. Hence this study was conducted to assess the level of inhibitory control and associated factors among elderly people living in elderly care institutions in Galle District.

Methods: Study was conducted in 190 elderly people living in institutions who are physically independent with Barthel's index score of more than 90. IC was assessed via computerized stroop inhibitory task. Number of errors was calculated to assess the level of inhibitory control. Group differences were assessed through independent sample t test and significant level was kept at p<0.05.

Results: The sample comprised of 69.5% (n=132) females with a mean age of 71.78 years (+6.5). Mean number of errors of the stroop tasks was 8.88 (+3.99). The number of errors in the stroop inhibitory task was significantly lower among females (n=132, p<0.01) who have had above secondary education (n=33, p<0.05), who engaged in group (n=153, p<0.05) and leisure time activities (n=173, p<0.05) and who were younger than 70 years of age (n=78, p<0.01).

Conclusions: IC was significantly associated with age, educational status, gender, engagement in group and leisure time activities among the study sample.

OP 6

Expectations versus reality in chronic venous ulceration; a quality of life assessment study Samaraweera DI, Jayasinghe JMDC, Godahewa SS, Gunarathne KPDJK, Cassim MRN, Wijerathne SM

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Introduction: Chronic venous ulceration is a common problem worldwide with a significant effect on Quality of Life (QoL).