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Family Health Bureau Colombo 10

> Waters' Edge Battaramulla

Sri Lanka Medical Association Colombo 7

Programme & Abstracts



Abstracts

Hall A

OP 1

DID WE KNOW THESE? A DESCRIPTIVE STUDY OF CHILDREN PRESENTING WITH FEBRILE CONVULSIONS

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Introduction: Febrile convulsions (FC) are common among paediatric casualty admissions. Once a child develops a febrile fit, there is risk of another till about five years of age. So it is important for parents to know what to do and what not to do during a febrile illness.

Objectives: The objectives of this study were to assess practices and knowledge related to FC.

Method: Data was collected using an interviewer-administered questionnaire at the time of discharge

Results: Out of 47 children with FC, majority (60%) were less than 3 years old and 68% of them were males. Among them 23 (48%) had the first episode before the age of one year. Forty percent (n=19) of them had a past history of more than one fit before this admission. Among them 55% had a family history of fits and out of them most had a positive paternal history (10).

Although 44% of mothers were educated up to O/L, 85% of them were house wives. Eighty nine percent of them knew the importance of controlling fever to prevent fits and had used paracetamol and tepid sponging. Majority (89%) of them have used thermometers and have given the paracetamol incorrectly. When assessing maternal knowledge, 74% did not know regarding the plan for next scheduled immunisation and 92% did not have clear knowledge regarding whether an EEG or antiepileptic is indicated. If the child developed a fit, 89% knew what to do.

Conclusion: Maternal knowledge regarding FC is satisfactory but need to fill few more gaps.

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