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**ELECTRONIC DEVICE USAGE AMONG CHILDREN- DESCRIPTIVE CROSS  
SECTIONAL STUDY AMONG A SELECTED GROUP OF CHILDREN**

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The electronic devices (ED) which interconnect people have become an essential need. Children's and adolescents' recreational activities are mostly confined to the usage of such devices.

There are well known advantages and disadvantages of ED. Acquiring and sharing knowledge is the main advantages of the ED and it also helps to develop hand eye coordination and concentrating power in them. However over usage without supervision can lead to disastrous consequences.

**Objective:** To identify the prevalence of usage of ED among children who attend to Colombo South Teaching Hospital

**Methodology:** Descriptive study using an interview administered questionnaire.

**Results:** Total sample was 330. The age range was 4-12 years. There were 172 males (52.1%). Most (87.8%) of them study in the Sinhala medium. Out of them 322 were watching television (97.5%) and 260 (78.7%) were using mobile phones. Some form of computer usage was 27.8% (n=95). The most popular TV programmes were Sinhala dubbed cartoons ( ). Other than mobile phones, they use game and watch consoles (40) Tablets (20). Except 02, others not even heard about the expensive game consoles like Play Stations and Nintendo. Most of them ( ) use these hand held devices to play games ( ) while has used them to enjoy music. In 20% they have spent 1hr/per day with these devices. According to parental perception the academic activities were affected mildly but physical activities were affected significantly.

**Conclusion:** Electronic devices have influenced the life style of many children. To get a better picture more extensive data collection and assessment should be arranged.



## Knowledge Regarding Convulsions and First Aid Among Preschool Teachers in Colombo District - Sri Lanka

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**Introduction:** Convulsions are a common paediatric problem needing emergency care worldwide. Appropriate knowledge and immediate first aid provided during a convulsion reduce complications.

### Objectives:

**General Objective:** Assess the knowledge regarding convulsions and immediate management

**Specific objectives** Knowledge on identifying a convulsion, Knowledge in first aid  
Evaluate the attitude towards the children with convulsion and demographic data

Determine the relationship between them and the knowledge and first aid.

**Materials and Methods:** Community based descriptive cross sectional study using pretested interviewer administered questionnaire. From a score out of 100 and above 75 marks was considered as good knowledge.

**Results:** Total of 148 preschool teachers participated and 96.4% were females, while 55.5% were above 30 years. Majority (80%) were Sinhalese. Most teachers (75.5%) had a diploma in preschool teaching and 67.3% had less than 10 year experience. Out of all, 81.8% had a good knowledge regarding convulsions but only 49.1% had knowledge regarding the first aid. Awareness about convulsions was better in 66.4%, while attitudes towards the children with convulsions were poor in 60.9%.

There was a significant correlation in between the education level and knowledge ( $P = 0.039$ ) and previous training on management of convulsions and the knowledge about co.nvulsions ( $P=0.05$ ). All other factors were not considered significant.

**Conclusion and Recommendations:** The education level and previous training on management of convulsions had significant knowledge on convulsions. As the knowledge on first aid and attitudes about convulsions were poor Health education programmes should be carried out in this population.

