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Free Paper Session 4: Miscellaneous

OP 25: National survey on tobacco use among school teachers in Sri Lanka

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Introduction and Objectives: To describe the prevalence and correlates of smoking among school teachers in Sri Lanka

Methods: This cross sectional study used multi-stage, stratified random sampling to select thirty schools from each school cluster, defined by the Ministry of Education (1AB, 1C, and II). All teachers and supervisory staff categories (e.g. principle) were included. A total of 3,652 teachers and principals (78.4%) participated. A pre-tested self administered, anonymous questionnaire was used to collect the data.

Results: Prevalence of all time smoking was 15.4% (95%CI 13.0%-18.1%) (teachers: 14.1%, principals:42.7%, males:48.3%, females:3.7%). Smoking during past 30 days was 4.1% (95%CI 3.0%-5.5%). Among principals and teachers 12.3% and 1.7%, respectively smoked within schools premises. Chewed tobacco, was used by 5.3% (95%CI 4.1%-6.9%). Majority (97.1%, 95%CI 96.2%-97.8) believed that smoking should be banned from public places. Tobacco use prevention was actively addressed in school curriculum, in 62.5% (95%CI 59.1%-65.7%) of the schools. A total of 60.1% (95%CI 56.5%-63.6%) of teachers had access to teaching material on prevention of tobacco use, 10.9% (95%CI 9.4%-12.6%) had received training on prevention of youth tobacco use while 53.7% (95%CI 50.0%-57.3%) thought that teachers needed specific training to help students avoid tobacco use. As many as 35.4% (95%CI 31.4%-39.7%) schools used non-classroom programs to teach prevention of youth tobacco use. Majority 94.8%, (95%CI 93.8%-95.7%) believed that tobacco use by teachers influence youth tobacco use.

Conclusions: The prevalence of smoking is high among school principals and teachers. The access to teaching material and training to prevent youth tobacco use is inadequate.

OP 26: Lower limb fungal foot infections in patients with type 2 diabetes at a tertiary care hospital

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Introduction and Objectives: Superficial fungal foot infection (SFFI) in diabetic patients increases the risk of developing diabetic foot syndrome. Sixteen percent of urban population in Sri Lanka has diabetes. Early intervention is advisable as diabetic patients are more prone to fungal foot infections and because of the progressive nature of the infection. There is no data on the prevalence of SFFIs in diabetic patients in Sri Lanka. Objectives were to determine the prevalence and aetiology of SFFI in patients with type 2 diabetes.

Methods: Three hundred and eighty five diabetic patients were selected. Nail clippings and swabs were collected from the infected sites using the standard protocol. Laboratory identification was done and pathogens were identified by morpho physiological methods.

Results: Clinically 295 patients (77%) showed SFFI, of which 255 (86%) were mycologically confirmed. Out of 236 direct microscopy (KOH) positives, 227 (96%) were culture positive. Two hundred and fifty one patients (98%) with SFFI had diabetes for more than 10 years. Of the patients with SFFIs, 92% had FBS > 100mg/ dl and 81% had PPBS>140mg/ dl. Both elevated FBS and PPBS was seen in 80%. Non-dermatophyte fungal species were the commonest pathogens followed by yeast and dermatophytes.

Conclusion: *Aspergillus niger* was the commonest pathogen followed by *Candida albicans*. SFFIs was significantly associated with increasing age, gender, duration of diabetes and poor glycaemic control.

OP 27: Evaluation of the accuracy of glucometers currently used in Sri Lanka

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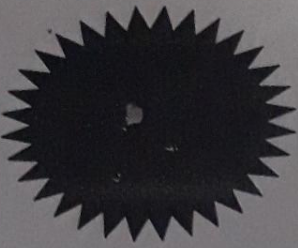
22nd Annual Scientific Sessions

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This is to certify that

Wijesuriya TM, Weerasekera MM, Kottahachchi J, Dissanayake MSS, Prathapan S
Gunasekera TDCP, Nogaarachath A, George LD, Bulagahapitiga U, Fernando SSN
is awarded the Third Prize in Oral Presentations
for the paper titled

Proportion of fungal foot infections in patients with type 2 diabetes at a tertiary care
hospital
at the 22nd Annual Scientific Sessions 2013 held at Medical Research Institute, Colombo



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