

**KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDE AND PRACTICE ON  
HEALTH CARE WASTE MANAGEMENT  
AMONG GENERAL PRACTITIONERS IN  
NORTH OKKALAPA TOWNSHIP, YANGON**

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**2017**

## **ABSTRACT**

Health care waste management (HCWM) represents a major public health and environmental concern. A cross-sectional descriptive study was conducted with the objective of assessing the knowledge, attitude and practice on health care waste management among general practitioners in North Okkalapa Township, Yangon Region from September to December, 2017. Pre-tested structured questionnaires were used in data collection. There were 100 general practitioners participating in quantitative study and 10 general practitioners were involved in in depth interviews. In quantitative study, mean age of the participants was 30.72 years and more than half of the participants were male (54%). In studying general practitioners experiences, mean year was 5.57years, and 54% of general practitioners had less than 5 years of GP experience. Only 16% of the GP received training on health care waste management for GP during last 1 year. In summarization of knowledge score, (56%) were good knowledge score and (44%) were poor knowledge score on health care waste management. Number of general practitioners with good attitude was higher than those with poor attitude, having 57% and 43% respectively. Regarding the practice on health care waste management, 76% of respondents had poor practice and only 24% had good practice. In this study, there were associations between age group, designation, duration of working experience and attitude. There was no statistically significant associations between practice levels of general practitioners by background characteristics but the good practice is seen in general practitioners who had training on health care waste management. There was association between knowledge and attitude of general practitioners as well as their attitude and practices. Based on the findings from both quantitative and qualitative assessment, it was found that priority of health care waste management is low in general practitioners. Finally, more attention should be directed at general practitioners in order to close the gap in their knowledge and practice of health care waste management. Training program, health education program and awareness raising on the waste management should be provided. It is necessary to add more efforts on current health care management system by means of adequate human resources, materials. Provision of sufficient factors for health care waste disposal should be recommended in collaboration and coordination with YCDC.