

**KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDE AND PREVENTIVE PRACTICE ON LYMPHATIC
FILARIASIS AMONG URBAN POPULATION IN SOUTH OKKALAPA TOWNSHIP,
YANGON**

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ABSTRACT

Lymphatic filariasis (LF) is a major cause of permanent disability in many tropical and sub-tropical countries of the world. Considering human suffering, social stigma and cost associate with LF morbidity, LF is one of the major public health problems in endemic communities. Myanmar is one of the countries in which LF is an endemic disease. This cross-sectional descriptive study was done to explore knowledge, attitude and preventive practice on Lymphatic filariasis among urban population in Yangon. The total of 182 respondents was interviewed by face to face method with semi-structured questionnaires. Six wards were selected among the existing 13 wards in South Okkalapa township.

Most of the respondents were within 48 to 57 aged group, female, Myanmar, Buddhist and married person. One third of the respondents were middle school passed. Half of the respondents were dependent and had 4 to 6 family members. Average family income per month of respondents was about 280000 kyats.

All the respondents 100% heard of LF and mass media was the main source of information about LF. There were 58.2% of those respondents who indicated that filariasis is transmitted by mosquitoes. More than 60% of respondents perceived LF to be a problematic disease. About 99.5% had low level of knowledge and only 0.5% had high knowledge level. However 98.4% had good attitude and 1.6% had poor attitude level. Moreover, all the respondents 100% in this study had poor practice to prevention of LF.