

## **ABSTRACT**

The present study aimed to determine the characteristics and associated factors of injured cases caused by interpersonal violence attending Hlaing Tharyar Hospital. A hospital-based cross-sectional descriptive study was conducted on 190 injured patients caused by interpersonal violence attending Hlaing Tharyar Hospital. A consecutive sampling method, pretested semi-structured questionnaires and key informant interview guidelines were used. The questionnaires consisted of sociodemographic characteristics, injury characteristics and predisposing factors of interpersonal violence. In this study, the commonest age groups were young adult population (21 - 40 years). Men were assaulted more. Most injured patients lived in urban area. Education status up to middle school level and occupation as manual labor were mostly seen. Most of their incomes were less than one lakh kyats. From six pm to midnight was the time when most interpersonal violence took place. Interpersonal violence cases in male mainly happened on the pubs and streets and in female mainly happened in home. Male victims used alcohol more. Open wound injuries were most common nature of injuries. If both victims and assailants drank alcohol, victims would get more chance of having moderate and severe injuries and of being hospitalized or referred to other tertiary hospitals ( $p < 0.05$ ). According to qualitative analysis, alcohol use, lack of knowledge about violence, illiteracy and low socioeconomic status were found to be predisposing factors of interpersonal violence. Although alcohol itself was responsible for the violence, efforts to develop injury prevention strategies targeting alcohol consumption would be beneficial in the community. Therefore, education about health consequences of drinking alcohol should be given to the community especially young adult population. And then, action should be taken by increasing alcohol prices, regulating alcohol sales and reducing access to alcohol. By that means interpersonal violence rates will decline in future.