

ABSTRACT

This study was cross-sectional descriptive study to describe awareness and practice on preparedness and response for flood among health staffs in Moe Nyo and Padaung Township, Bago Region. Heavy rains plus Cyclone Komen caused floods and landslides in several areas of Myanmar last June and July, 2015.

Total 141 (79%) respondents out of total 177 health staffs from Moe Nyo and Padaung townships, Bago Region participated to answer structured self-administered questionnaires. Out of 141 respondents, 63 (44.7%) was from Moe Nyo township and 78 (55.3%) was from Padaung township. Health staffs were doctors, nurses, health assistants, lady health visitors, midwives, public health supervisors 1 and 2 from township hospitals, station hospitals, urban health centers, rural health centers and sub-centers. All respondents were working under Department of Public Health and Department of Medical Services, Ministry of health.

Questionnaires were divided into 4 parts – demographic factors, knowledge about disaster, awareness on preparedness and response and practice on preparedness and response.

By scoring, 87.9% had low knowledge for disaster preparedness and response. Most of them knew that there was Township Disaster Management and Hospital Emergency Plan. But, disaster management training and drills were not done well in their places in practice (14.2%). They needed more knowledge for triage system. They well knew health hazards by disaster.

All respondents had poor attitude regarding disaster preparedness and response by scoring. 69.5% agreed disaster drills or simulations should be done in their hospital or health centers.

Out of 141 respondents, 102 (72.3%) answered that their hospital/health centre-covered areas were affected by flood. All respondents who were affected by flood had bad practice regarding flood preparedness and response by scoring. Majority out of 102 respondents had experience of health care in camp management and coordination with other organizations. Majority of them used telephone/hand phone to communicate for managing the flood.

