

## ABSTRACT

A cross-sectional study was carried out with the objectives of assessing the level of Knowledge, Attitude and Practice of new pulmonary TB patients and to determine the effect of socio-demographic characteristics on knowledge, attitude and practice of new pulmonary TB patients in Hlaingtharyar Township from August to September 2009. A total of 196 patients were interviewed with pre-tested structured questionnaire after taking informed consent. After data collection, proper scoring and coding were made and entered into the computer using Epi data software. Descriptive findings were analyzed with SPSS 16.0 software and for continuous data, measure of central tendency, measure of dispersion and grouping were calculated. Univariate analysis such as mean scores and Chi-square test were used to compare the categorical data between independent and dependent variables. Binary logistic regression analysis was used to find magnitude of association between the variables. Most of respondents were new smear positive cases (74.5%), aged 20-49 years (75.5%), married (65.8%), primary and middle school education level (63.3%) and employed (69.4%). Knowledge level and educational status were significantly associated, but knowledge and other socio-demographic characteristics were not significant. Attitude and socio-demographic characteristics were not significant. Practice level and marital status, history of TB in family were statistically significant, but practice and other socio-demographic characteristics were not significant. Knowledge and attitude level were significantly associated each other ( $p$  value = 0.04). Knowledge and practice level were significantly associated each other ( $p$  value = 0.02). Attitude and practice level were significantly associated each others ( $p$  value = 0.04). Knowledge, attitude and practice of patients were not significantly associated with sputum conversion. Findings of the study included; many misunderstanding in knowledge on solving of missed doses, attitude on side effects during drug taking, and number of cups of sputum specimen to be examined for follow up check. Most respondents did not know the importance of MDR-TB. Health staff should pay special attention to these points when they give pre-treatment counseling.