

## ABSTRACT

A cross sectional descriptive study was conducted with the objective of assessing the knowledge, attitude and practice on health care waste management among health care providers at North Okkalapa General Hospital, Yangon Region from September to December, 2015. There were 166 health care providers participating in quantitative study including 33 specialist assistant surgeons (19.9%), 38 assistant surgeons (22.9%), 46 house officers (27.7%) and 49 nurses (29.5%) respectively. In depth interviews were done among five general workers and key informant interviews were also carried out to one medical superintendent, three consultants and three ward sisters. In quantitative study, mean age of the participants was  $28.4 \pm 5.5$  years and 20-24 years age group was found to be the highest (33.1%). Most participants in this study were female (71.1%). Education status of the respondents revealed that most (63.3%) was graduated. The mean working experience of the health care providers was 4.1 years and (48.2%) had working experience less than 2 years. Majority of the respondents (94.6%) had not received training programme on health care waste management. In summarization of knowledge score, (53.6%) were poor knowledge and (46.4%) were good knowledge on health care waste management. Number of health care providers with good attitude is higher than those with poor attitude, having (59.6%) and (40.4%) respectively. Regarding the practice on health care waste management, (48.8%) of respondents had poor practice and (51.2%) had good practice. In this study, there was association between age group, designation, duration of working experience of the respondents and knowledge. It was found out that their practices were also associated with age, designation, working experience and past history of receiving training. There was association between knowledge and attitude of health care providers as well as their attitude and practices. Based on the findings from both quantitative and qualitative assessment, priority of hospital waste management is lower than other services and there should be proper and intensive training programs regarding awareness and practice of waste disposal for all health-care staff including doctors, nurses and general workers with continuous monitoring at regular intervals. It is necessary to add utmost efforts on current hospital waste management system by means of adequate human resources, materials and financial support.