

**KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDE AND PRACTICE ON FOOD
SANITATION AMONG HOUSEHOLD FOOD
HANDLERS IN SELECTED VILLAGES IN PATHEINGYI
TOWNSHIP, MANDALAY REGION, 2013**

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ABSTRACT

A cross sectional descriptive study was conducted to assess the knowledge, attitude and practice on food sanitation among household food handlers from 7 villages in Patheingyi Township, Mandalay region. From 7 selected villages from Patheingyi Township, 216 of household food handlers were selected by systematic random sampling. Data collection was done by face to face interview with pre-tested structured questionnaires. The questionnaires involve socio-demographic characteristics, knowledge, attitude and practice of household food handlers on food sanitation like personal hygiene, food borne diseases and food preparation methods. This study showed that 95% of food handlers were female while 5% were male in 216 respondents. The mean age of the study population was 38.62 years while the youngest was 12 years and the eldest was 75 years. The household food handlers of 41.2% were in the primary school level of education. Most of the respondents (97.2%) knew diarrhea as a food borne disease and 64.5% of respondents knew dysentery rather than the other food borne diseases. And 87% of respondents had wrong knowledge and stored the cooked food at room temperature after eating and only 9% knew that the cooked food should be stored at temperature below 5 degree Celsius. There were statistically significant association between educational status and knowledge level ($p= 0.007$), educational status and attitude ($p=0.000$), knowledge level and attitude ($p=0.008$), knowledge level and practice ($p=0.000$), knowledge level and practice checklist ($p=0.000$) on food sanitation. Among the respondents 57.9%, 53.2% and 67.6% of household food handlers were weak in knowledge, attitude and practice in hygienic practice in food handling and preparing. This study was aimed to assess knowledge, attitude and practice on food sanitation among household food handlers who were mainly handling and preparing food at household level.