

HYGIENIC KNOWLEDGE AND PRACTICE OF WORKERS ON SELECTED BOTTLED DRINKING WATER FACTORIES IN NORTHERN DISTRICT AND BACTERIOLOGICAL QUALITY OF BOTTLED DRINKING WATER IN SELECTED RETAIL OUTLETS OF YANGON

PHYO MAN THET OO

M.B.,B.S

2016

ABSTRACT

A cross-sectional descriptive study on hygienic knowledge and practice of workers in selected bottled drinking water factories in Northern District of Yangon and bacteriological quality of bottled drinking water among selected retail outlets in Yangon, Myanmar was done from September to November, 2016. One hundred and five factory workers and ninety drinking water bottles in selected area were conducted in this study. For knowledge and practice study, data collection was done by face to face interviews and checklist with pre-tested structured questionnaires after taking the informed consent. These questionnaires involved socio-demographic characteristics, knowledge and practice of factory workers on safety of drinking water bottles. In this study, number of male and female workers are nearly equal. The mean age of the study population was 23.7 years while the youngest was 14 year and the eldest were 47 years. Seventy nine percent had passed primary and middle school level of education. More than half of the respondents (57.1%) had less than 1 year in duration of working. Nearly half of the workers (46.7%) had high knowledge and (45.7%) had good practice. Age (p value=0.003), sex (p value=0.000) and duration of work (p value=0.036) were found to be statistically significant associated with actual practice score of factory workers. This study stated that practice level of most of the factory workers in study area was found to be poor in wearing of masks and caps because only 16.2% wore masks and caps properly. Therefore health education and training for the safety of bottled drinking water should be given to factory workers in study area. According to bacteriological analysis of drinking water bottles, 70 samples (77%) of 90 drinking water bottles showed bacteriological contamination. This study raises the concerns regarding about the quality of bottled drinking water sold in Yangon city. So Training about hygienic knowledge and practices, regular monitoring and close supervision on factory workers should be given by in charge persons of factories. Bottled drinking water factories should be inspected randomly and post market surveillance of drinking water bottles in retail outlets should be done routinely by authorized persons.