

## ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study is to explore awareness on indoor air pollution (IAP) among the housewives residing in Kyauktada and Hlaing Thar Yar townships. The study was designed as cross sectional descriptive, assessing the overall awareness on IAP, common potential indoor air pollutants exposed and the existing IAP related health problems among the respondents. The study was conducted in townships selected from urban and peri urban strata of Yangon Division. Sampling method was stratified multistage random sampling. The study period was from September to November, 2010 and one hundred housewives from Kyauktada and Hlaing Thar Yar townships participated in the study. After taking the informed consent, face to face interview was undertaken by the researcher. Mean age of the respondents was 31.6. Majority were high school passed followed by graduates. Apart from the education level and type of housing, other socio demographic characteristics exhibited no statistically significant difference between the two townships from respective strata. Minimum awareness score was 20 and maximum was 48. Mean score of the total respondents was 34. Seventy seven percent of the total respondents had high level of awareness and twenty three percent of total respondents had low level of awareness. Participants' overall awareness on IAP and sources of IAP were regarded as sufficient but were insufficient regarding IAP related health problems and prevention. Respondents from urban stratum had higher awareness than those from the peri urban. Common potential indoor air pollutants identified were coal stoves and scented sticks. Coughing and shortness of breath due to potential indoor air pollutants were the most mentioned symptoms and the participant hardly had diseases known to be associated with IAP. As recommendation, it would be wise to conduct further more comprehensive intervention study on IAP including determination of indoor air quality.