

## **ABSTRACT**

The national immunization strategies have been developed based on the framework reflected in the Global Vaccine Action Plan (2011-2020). Currently national immunization programme has been providing nine antigens containing immunization schedule. A recent independent assessment report on progress of Global Vaccine Action Plan rings an alarm bell, warning that vaccines are not being delivered equitably or reliably. And also, overall immunization coverage of Myanmar is not low but there may be many pocket area. This study was intended to assess the immunization status of under two years children and their care-givers' awareness in Pyigyitagon Township, Mandalay.

Community based cross-sectional descriptive study design with both quantitative and qualitative approaches were conducted. The total 270 care-givers of children under two years old were included from four lowest immunization coverage wards. House to house survey was done by using semi-structured questionnaires after obtaining written informed consent. For qualitative study, face-to-face individual in-depth interviewing and recording by digital recorder were done after obtaining the written informed consent. Ten care-givers of non immunized children between the age of nine months and two years were included.

The immunization status of this study area was low. Only half of the children were fully immunized and there were 13% non immunized children. Most of the care-givers were female and above sixty percent of them were educated up to primary school level. The socio-demographic characteristics of care-givers were statistically associated with the knowledge, attitude and practice of them on immunization. The knowledge of care-givers was also associated with the practice of care-givers but the attitude was not associated with their practice on immunization.

The main reason of not obtaining immunization was lack of information regarding the immunization's schedule, the importance of immunization, the place and /or time of immunization session. This was due to weakness in health education session relating to importance of immunization, displaying of immunization related posters and announcing of the opening date and time of immunization session.

