

**KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDE AND PRACTICE ON VIRAL HEPATITIS B INFECTION IN
HLAING THARYAR TOWNSHIP, YANGON REGION**

KYAW KYAW NAING

M.B.,B.S

2016

ABSTRACT

A cross-sectional descriptive study aimed to evaluate knowledge, attitude and practice on hepatitis B infection among eighteen to sixty years old household members in Hlaing Tharyar Township, Yangon from September to December, 2016. A total of 215 study populations were assessed by using structured pretested questionnaires including knowledge, attitude and practice towards hepatitis B infection. The present study revealed that the mean age of the respondent was 36.1 ± 11.9 year old, 60% of the respondents were female and the rest were male. About 69% of the respondents were married. About 36% had low educational level. Among all the respondents, 27% were dependent. In this study, all the respondents heard about hepatitis and hepatitis B infection. Health workers were the main source of information which was answered by almost 70% of the respondents. About 72% of the respondents knew that hepatitis B is communicable. Among them, 116(75%) of the respondents knew about hepatitis B transmission. Among 116 respondents, about 97% of the respondents knew that blood transfusion is one of the methods of hepatitis B transmission. Out of 215 respondents, almost all respondents knew that jaundice is the symptom of hepatitis B. About 55% of the study population knew that hepatitis B can cause liver cancer. Out of 215 respondents, 213 respondents knew that hepatitis B is preventable. Among 213 respondents, almost all respondents knew that hepatitis B vaccination is the one of the methods of hepatitis B prevention. In the present study, nearly 45% had high knowledge and about 19% had correct practice towards hepatitis B infection. In this study, the knowledge level was statistically significant association with education level ($p=0.000$) and family income ($p=0.000$). The practice level was significant association with education level ($p=0.000$) and family income ($p=0.000$). There was also significant association between knowledge and practice level ($p=0.000$) on hepatitis B infection among the respondents. Results from the current study highlighted poor knowledge and practice towards hepatitis B among the study population. Better knowledge can lead to correct practice and it is very important to control hepatitis B infection. Therefore, results from the present study, extensive health educational campaign should be provided to general population.