

ABSTRACT

A cross-sectional analytic study was carried out in the Mingalardon Township of Yangon region with the objective of determining the current state of knowledge, attitude and practice regarding dengue haemorrhagic fever among caretakers of the children from September to December 2015. Simple random sampling method was used for the study and total of 192 households were recruited. One caretaker of children in the selected households was interviewed using a semi-structured questionnaire. Mean age of the respondents was 40.2 years and most of the respondents were mother. Television was the most common source of information about dengue among the respondents. About 70% of the respondents had good level of knowledge and 27% had poor level of knowledge. This study also revealed out the knowledge gap about dengue. Although most of the respondents knew that dengue is transmittable, only 60% of them knew mode of transmission. Almost all of the respondents (99%) had favorable attitude level. Most of the respondents (96%) showed their shared responsibility for prevention and control of dengue. Nearly half of the respondents have false belief of strong and healthy child cannot get DHF. Nearly 70% used mosquito coil for protection from mosquito bites. Among them, 30% used mosquito coil in night time only. More than 90% of the respondents stored water with container. Larva was found in large water containers of 38.5% of the respondents' houses. Statistically significant associations were not found between the knowledge and attitude; attitude and practice; and also between knowledge and practice. There was significant association between education status and knowledge and practice level. These findings point out that respondents' knowledge about dengue infection was deficient in some area. Public health education is necessary to fill the knowledge gap found in this study. Therefore, health education programmes should be strengthened and continued for improving knowledge about dengue haemorrhagic fever.