

**TREATMENT SEEKING PATTERN OF PATIENTS IN GENERAL MEDICAL UNITS OF
YANGON GENERAL HOSPITAL**

PYAE SONE LIN

M.B., B.S

2016

ABSTRACT

Among the inpatients of Yangon General Hospital in 2014, about two third of patients resided in Yangon region and one third from other states and region who bypassed nearby hospitals. The study was done to explore the treatment seeking pattern of inpatients in general medical units of Yangon General Hospital. The study was cross sectional descriptive study design conducted by face to face interview with 351 patients of all general medical units during first week of October, 2016. Among the patients, 88.9% was above 30 years, male was 52.5% and 61% was married. Primary and middle education level was 59.5% of patients and 43% was dependent. Average per capital monthly income was 85860 kyat. Among the patients, 61.5% was from Yangon region and 37.9% from other regions. In patients from other regions, 37.6% were from Ayayawady region, 34.6% from Bago region and 9.85 from Mon state. In the patients from Yangon region, it was 38% from East district, 25% from South district, 21% from North district and 16% from West district. Average driving hour distance to YGH was 3.7hour. Old cases were 15.1% of total cases. Direct admission to YGH was 16.8% and 83.2% took treatment before admission to YGH. Most of these patients had consulted general practitioners at private clinic less than one month duration. Average delayed time was 12.8 hour. Self referral case was 55% of all patients and only 37.6% had referral letter, and 52.5% of referrer was general practitioner. Elder in family was 55% of decision maker to seek treatment from YGH. Regarding the transportation, direct transportation was 83.2% and, 57.3% used taxi and 24.8% used ambulance. Average transportation cost was 22,700 kyat. The transportation cost was affordable for 41% and 59% was not. About one third of patients from other regions costed more than 50,000 kyat while 0.9% of those from Yangon region costed more than 50,000 kyat. For time of diagnosis, 74.7% was less than 6 month, and 69.8% was severe and life threatening cases. On progress of disease, 82% felt improvement. The main barrier was financial problem (23.1%) and the main reason for choosing YGH was —Trust as better hospital than others. Therefore, 90.3% of patients bypassed nearby hospitals with lots of difficulties especially financial problem because they trusted YGH as better hospital than others.