

**KNOWLEDGE AND PRACTICE ON BLOOD-BORNE INFECTIONS AMONG
MIDWIVES FROM PYAPON AND DAEDEYE TOWNSHIPS**

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ABSTRACT

A cross sectional descriptive study was conducted to describe the knowledge and practice of midwives (MWs) on blood-borne infections in Pyapon and Daedeye Townships from September to December, 2016. 125 MWs were interviewed using pretested questionnaire regarding their knowledge and practice on blood-borne infections (BBIs).

In this study, mean age of the respondents was 34.26 ± 8.89 years and 20-39 year age group was found to be the highest (37.6%). Majority were graduate (65.6%) and married (65.6%). Mean duration of service years was 8.94 ± 8.07 years and majority was more than 10 years (37.6%) and less than 1 year service was (8.8%). Most of the respondents knew the agents and mode of transmission of major BBIs. Nearly all respondents knew that every health care workers need to take Hepatitis B vaccine. About (37.6%) misinterpreted that used needles were thrown in the dust bin directly and (5.6%) misinterpreted choosing the correct time to dispose sharp bin container, only (94.4%) choose the correct answer. Assessing Universal Precaution, (98.4%) knew about Universal Precaution. Source of information regarding Universal Precaution was mainly from training. Nearly all of the

respondents knew that personal protective equipment (PPE). More than 90 percent were hand washing before immunization, after handling patient and after removing of gloves but (80.8%) was hand washing before handling patient. Regarding practice about wearing PPE, all respondents wear gloves during delivery. Only (82.4%) wear apron and around (30%) of respondents wear caps, mask, eye wear and shoe cover often wear. But there was low level of knowledge and practice of MWs on BBIs. There was significant association between working services and practice level. Based on findings from assessment, priority of management of BBI is lower than other health care services and therefore should be intensive training programs regarding BBIs of basic health staffs with continuous monitoring and education in monthly meeting.