

OT16-8

Awareness Regarding Rabies among Mothers Attending Selected Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Clinics in the Municipal Council-Colombo, Sri Lanka
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Introduction: Rabies is an invariably fatal disease posing significant socioeconomic problems in Sri Lanka and causing high costs on disease prevention and prophylaxis. In the eradication of rabies, public awareness is of paramount importance. It will result in ensuring the community safety.

Objective: To assess the awareness regarding rabies in mothers attending selected maternal & child health (MCH) clinics in the municipality of Colombo with emphasis placed on transmission, seeking medical attention & prevention of the disease.

Method: A descriptive cross-sectional study was conducted among 400 systematically randomized participants chosen from six randomly selected MCH clinics within the Colombo Municipality Council. The knowledge was assessed via a pretested and validated interviewer administered questionnaire. Data was analyzed using SPSS. Results :- The mean age of the sample was 29.95 years (SD=5.93). 86.5% of them had received a minimum of secondary level education. The mean score for knowledge regarding transmission was 56.74% (SD=14.08%). Knowledge regarding importance of seeking urgent medical attention and knowledge regarding prevention were scored at a mean of 68.02% (SD=12.02%) and 70.28% (SD=16.57%) respectively. The commonest mode of acquiring knowledge was from television (63.3%) while newspapers, radio and handbills accounted for the rest.

Conclusion: This showed that there is a considerable deficiency in knowledge on rabies within the study population. Of particular concern is knowledge regarding transmission of rabies, which is of paramount importance to minimize the incidence. We recommend large scale public awareness programme to overcome it.

Oral Track 17- Community Health

OT17-1

A Community-Based Environment Health Promotion Intervention: A Learning Experience of Medical Undergraduates in Sri Lanka
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Background: Community attachment programme of Colombo University medical curriculum offers opportunity to achieve learning outcomes (LOs) on

health promotion. Achievement of these LOs has not been evaluated.

Objective: To describe student perception of achievement of LOs in a community attachment programme through community-based environmental health interventions on household waste management and compare with tutor assessed achievement of LOs. **Methodology:** Specific learning objectives were given to students at commencement of attachment during a 1½-year attachment programme. At end of programme a self-administered questionnaire assessed achievement of each LO on a three point scale. Student group reports (n=14), were scored independently by three tutors using agreed upon descriptors as depicting extent of achievement. Average of 3 tutor scores was taken as final score. Results Student response rate was 78% (161/206). LOs perceived as achieved were: participatory needs assessment (51%-large extent; 48%-some extent); evaluating effectiveness (30%-large extent; 60%-some extent); developing communication skills (64%-large extent; 34%-some extent); working in teams (50% large extent; 43%-some extent); developing favourable attitudes towards learning from community (39%-large extent; 45%-some extent). Correlation between achievement of LOs perceived by students and tutors was substantial (Spearman $r=0.535$).

Conclusion: Student reporting revealed that most of LOs have been achieved at least to some extent which was corroborated by tutors. Community-based learning can be used for teaching health promotion to medical undergraduates.

OT17-2

A Prediction Model for Type 2 Diabetes among Non-Diabetic Community Subjects in Northern Taiwan

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Aim: This study aimed to develop a predictive model for type 2 diabetes among non-diabetics using demographic and laboratory factors among community subjects.

Methods: We recruited community residents aged 40 years or older who participated in an adult health check-up program in Tao-Yuan during the period of 2004 to 2006. After excluding those with diabetes, cardiovascular diseases, and cancer, 18573 participants were included as the learning sample. An independent sample of 6257 participants of health check-up in a tertiary hospital in 2004 was used as the testing sample. A set of risk scores was developed using coefficients derived from logistic regression analysis, and the Net reclassification improvement (NRI) was adopted to evaluate the predictive ability for an additional predictor. Results: With 975 subjects whose fasting glucose

126mg/dl being considered as diabetes, the predictive probability for a model including age, gender, body mass index, triglyceride, and systolic blood pressure for