

**KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDE AND PRACTICE ON
PREVENTION OF
DENGUE HEMORRHAGIC FEVER
AMONG SCHOOL TEACHERS
IN HLAING THARYAR TOWNSHIP,
YANGON REGION**

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ABSTRACT

Dengue hemorrhagic fever (DHF) is the most common mosquito-borne viral disease in recent years. It has become a major international public health concern. Globally, 2.5 billion people live in areas where dengue viruses can be transmitted. Its high morbidity and mortality threaten to school going age children and awareness and practice of school teachers are one of the essential components for prevention of DHF. This study, therefore, aimed to assess the knowledge, attitude and practice of prevention of DHF among school teachers in four selected Basic Education High Schools (BEHS) in Hlaing Tharyar Township, Yangon region. A community based cross-sectional descriptive study was undertaken among 200 school teachers by using semi-structure self-administer questionnaires. This study revealed that vast majority of respondents were graduated and most of them were female (89%). Only 19% were member of school health team. Very few (10%) of the school teachers got DHF training. All of the participants heard about DHF. More than half of them had high knowledge level towards prevention of DHF. Almost all of the respondents knew that mode of transmission of DHF; but very few respondents thought that DHF can be transmitted by drinking of unboil water and contact with patients. Some of them misunderstood that adding chlorine can control the larva breeding. Majority of the participants (80%) had favorable attitude on prevention of DHF. Findings showed more than half (59%) of the respondents had good practice level such as giving health education about DHF to students (89%), changed water vases (98%), and clean school environment (98%). Middle school teachers had high knowledge level ($P < 0.001$) and school teachers who were age 21 to 34 years had favorable attitude towards prevention of DHF ($P = 0.008$). Major source of health information about DHF was from television (70%), newspaper (63%), health staff (58%) and radio (54%). As there were some misunderstanding facts in transmission and preventive measures for DHF among school teachers, health education about DHF, emphasizes on transmission and prevention, is needed to strengthen into school level. School-based DHF training to school health teachers should be undertaken to increase knowledge, attitude and practice level of them on prevention of DHF as well.