

**KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDE AND PRACTICE
ON MDR-TB AMONG MIDWIVES IN MAGWAY
AND CHAUK TOWNSHIPS, MAGWAY REGION**

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ABSTRACT

Multidrug resistant TB (MDR-TB) is the public health concern in many countries and the major challenges for MDR-TB control programme. Myanmar is one of the 30 high MDR-TB burden countries in the world. The public health centres are the first contact points for the community to receive the health care services. The high knowledge, positive attitude and good practice on MDR-TB of the midwives (MWs) are essential to succeed in MDR-TB control programme. Magway Region was one of the ten highest States/Regions where MDR-TB cases were treated with second line anti-TB drugs by MWs as the main providers. A cross-sectional descriptive study was conducted among MWs to assess the knowledge, attitude and practice on MDR-TB in Magway and Chauk townships, Magway Region from September to November 2019. This study included 75 MWs from Magway township and 59 MWs from Chauk township (SHU=4, UHC=7, MCH=12, RHC=20 and SC=91). The self-administered questionnaire was used in which background characteristics, knowledge, attitude and practice measures on MDR-TB were included. Half of the respondents were young age group and graduated. Two-thirds of the respondents received training on MDR-TB management and among them one-third received training more than 3 years ago. In this study, (56%) of the respondents had the experience on directly observed treatment (DOT) management for MDR-TB patients. In this study, one-third of the respondents had high knowledge level. Few respondents had the misconceptions in the statements such as definition, diagnosis, GeneX-pert testing, follow-up sputum examination, and infection control. Although almost all respondents had the positive attitude, less than half of the respondents (40%) had good practice concerning MDR-TB. There was statistically significant association between township and level of knowledge. And this study found that statistically significant associations between training of MDR-TB management, use of MDR-TB manual guideline and level of practice. It was concluded that although attitude of the respondents was high, knowledge level was low and had poor practice. Trainings, refresher trainings on management of MDR-TB to reduce the misconceptions and MDR-TB manual guidelines should be given to all midwives.