

**ASSESSMENT OF KNOWLEDGE AND
PRACTICE OF LABORATORY STAFF ON
BIOSAFETY PRECAUTION IN CLINICAL
LABORATORY AT SELECTED GOVERNMENT
TERTIARY HOSPITALS**

THIDA OO

M.B.,B.S

Dip.Med.Sc (Hospital Administration)

Master of Hospital Administration (MHA)

University of Public Health, Yangon

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ABSTRACT

A cross sectional study was conducted to assess the knowledge and practice of laboratory staff on biosafety precautions in clinical laboratory of Yangon General Hospital (YGH), North Okkalapa General Hospital, Yangon Specialty Hospital, Yangon Children Hospital, Central Woman Hospital (Yangon) and New Yangon General Hospital (NYGH) from September to December, 2019. Total 96 staff including officer, laboratory technician (1), laboratory technician (2) and laboratory technician (3) were participated in quantitative study. For qualitative study, one pathologist, one microbiologist and four laboratory staff were participated. Most of respondents were ≤ 40 years and female staff were more dominant. Most of staff were diploma holders and about half of respondents were more than five years services. Most of the staff (65.6%) were no on job training about biosafety precautions. In this study, 60 percent of given marks of the knowledge and practice scores were used as line of demarcation to separate good and poor. Among them, (85.4%) had good knowledge and 80.2% were practicing good practice. In this study, most of the staff had knowledge about personal protective equipment (PPE) but less used this knowledge in practice like using of apron, goggles. Knowledge level had statistically significant association with age and there was also statistically significant association between age and also rank with practice level. This association explored that the younger age had better knowledge and better practice than the older age. Qualitative study pointed that old age staff less followed the guideline because of their experience in practice. Moreover, trainings and continuing medical education (CME), supported and supervised by top level authorities were required to improve their knowledge and practice and supplies of the necessary equipment for safety were also important. Regulatory mechanism was needed to let them apply their knowledge in practice. In this study, the laboratories of hospitals had just completed the biosafety level 2, and so, there should be further supply of facilities for higher biosafety level.