

## **ABSTRACT**

### **Introduction**

Sri Lanka is one of the developing Asian country, with rapidly ageing population. In Sri Lanka and other developing countries elderly define as a person with chronological age of 60 years and above.

Covid-19 is a communicable disease, which is caused by Novel Corona virus. The Covid-19 pandemic was initially started in China in December 2019, from fish market of Wuhan city of China. On 11<sup>th</sup> March 2020, Covid-19 was declared as pandemic by Director of World Health Organization (WHO).

Elderly is more vulnerable population to be affected by Covid-19 infection, especially people who are living in long term care facilities.

### **Objectives**

To assess the knowledge, attitudes and practices on prevention of Covid-19 among older persons in elder homes of Colombo district.

### **Method**

The descriptive cross-sectional study was carried out. Study was conducted during the period of September 2020 to March 2021. The calculated sample size was 384. Pretested interview administered questionnaire was used to assess the knowledge, attitudes and practices on prevention of Covid-19 infection among older persons in selected elder homes of Colombo district. Study was conducted over the phone due to current situation of Covid-19. among male and female, who were above sixty or who have completed sixty and living more than one year in selected elder homes of Colombo district and older persons, who were mentally and physically fit to provide information through interviewer-administered questionnaire.

### **Results**

Out of the 384 participants,84.6% of population had good knowledge about Covid-19 infection; Majority of the participants were female. (66.7%) with the age range of sixty years to ninety-nine years. Mean age of participant was 70.48(SD 15.03). Smaller portion of the population were uneducated. (19.3%); 79.4% had good attitudes and 77.2% of given population had good practices; Almost all of the participants heard about Covid-19 infection.97.1% follow preventive guidelines.

### **Conclusion**

Majority of given population showed good knowledge, attitudes and practices. Consequent training program on preventive measures help them to improve the knowledge and reduce the impact of Covid-19 in elder homes.

### **Recommendation**

Covid-19 preventive measures to be improved in the elderly home.

### **Key words**

Knowledge, attitude, practice, older person, elder homes.