

# 1. Abstract

## Introduction

The knowledge and skills of Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation is a vital tool in saving lives. Therefore timely affective and correct intervention in an emergency is expected from health professionals throughout the world as per UK guidelines.( Brown TB, et al.2006)

Accident Service(AS) of the National Hospital of Sri Lanka (NHSL)being the leading institution in the city of Colombo needs to have skilful well trained medical personnel to deal with the ever increasing number of emergencies that are admitted to the Accident Service on a daily basis.

This study was done to find out the knowledge attitude and practice of CPR among medical staff of this institution and to identify any prevalent gaps in training.

## Methodology

A descriptive cross sectional study was done using a self- administered questionnaire. There were separate questions to assess knowledge and practice and clinical scenarios to assess attitude in performing CPR. The study population was doctors and nurses of different departments of the AS of NHSL. The questionnaires were given in the morning and collected at the end of the shift

## Results and Discussion

Data was analysed and the results obtained. Out of 302 members of staff who responded only about 5% of doctors and 2% of nurses scored more than 75% of marks for the knowledge part. In the assessment of attitude, around 42% of doctors and 27% of nurses scored the pass mark of 50%, while an appalling 10% and 24% of figures were shown for attitude, respectively. From 179 members of staff who has had training after graduating only less than 17 % of staff members had training within the last 2 years. Resuscitation UK Guidelines recommend that medical professionals should have refresher courses every 2 years to keep up with the changes as well as to update training. The study revealed the low numbers of staff of the AS who underwent recent training in CPR.

## Conclusions & Recommendations

The knowledge attitude and practice of CPR was poor among the staff of the AS of the NHSL. It is recommended that the staff members undergo a refresher program of CPR every 2 years.