

## **ABSTRACT**

There is an increase trend of natural disasters in Sri Lanka. Floods are the most frequently occurring natural disasters identified throughout the year. Ratnapura district is reported as one of the most vulnerable areas for floods due to its topographical features. Elapatha divisional secretariat division in Ratnapura district is recorded as the highest number of families affected due to floods in 2018. Therefore, Elapatha divisional secretariat division was selected as a representative of Ratnapura districts in this study.

This study concentrates on the traumatic and non-traumatic health risk in the flood affected community, pattern of communicable diseases, economic loss due to negative impact of floods on health and the effectiveness of public health care during floods in 2017 to 2019 period.

This study was conducted as a cross sectional study in 87 households selected randomly in Elapatha divisional secretariat division. The statistical relationship between variables were examined by using Chi-square test. The variable “number of families affected” is represented as the the proxy variable of the impact of flood. The findings reveal that there is a strong relationship between the number of families affected and the number of families had communicable diseases during floods. Therefore, it can be concluded that the impact of flood on health sector is statistically significant. Recommendations highlighting the role of communities and other stakeholders in flood related health risk management are proffered.