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Needle-stick injuries among healthcare workers in Brunei DarussalamKyaw Naing Win¹, Alice Lai¹ and Nur Asma²¹Ministry of Health, Brunei Darussalam²University of Brunei Darussalam, Brunei Darussalam

Introduction: Healthcare workers are at risk of acquiring blood borne infections due to Needle Stick Injuries (NSIs) arising from a combination of high risk activities during clinical procedures such as administering injections, drawing blood, recapping needles, disposing of needles, handling trash and dirty linen and transferring blood or body fluids from a syringe to a specimen container and missing the target.

Objectives: To measure the prevalence of NSIs in healthcare workers in Brunei Darussalam and determine NSIs by age, gender, job category, working location, causes, working hours, duration of employment and awareness of occupational health and safety. To find out the follow-up pattern after needle stick injury.

Method: A cross sectional study on secondary data of needle sticks injury cases reported to the Occupational Health Division, Ministry of Health from January 2014 until December 2016.

Result: A total of 106 cases of NSIs were reported. The mean prevalence rate of NSIs is 8.4 per 1,000. Majority were female (87, 82%) with mean age of 33 years old. NSIs were prevalent in HCWs who had worked for less than or equal to 5 years 35 (33%), morning shift (50%), among nurses 60 (56%), worked in a tertiary healthcare facility, in hospitals (78, 74%), by clinical procedures 48 (45%) and in those who claimed they were aware of occupational health and safety training 75 (70%).

Conclusion: Preventive measures on NSIs are needed for healthcare workers including education and regular refresher training.

Biography

Kyaw Naing Win has completed his MBBS from Myanmar and obtained his Master's degree of Medicine in Occupational Medicine from National University of Singapore. He is currently working as an Occupational Health Physician in Ministry of Health, Occupational Health Division, Brunei Darussalam. He is involved in pre-employment medical examinations, periodic medical examinations, workman compensation assessment and fitness for return to work medical assessment as well as medical board examinations. He has also published a few scientific articles and is also an Independent Reviewer particularly on noise induced hearing loss in few journals.

knwin2005@yahoo.com

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