

OP 48: Knowledge and attitudes on Basic Life Support and associated factors, among selected nursing schools/ nursing faculties in Sri Lanka

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Introduction: Basic Life support (BLS) skills are an essential part of the medical curriculum which are utilized to save lives in emergency situations.

Objectives: To determine the knowledge and attitudes in BLS and factors associated with those, among nursing students in selected nursing schools/faculties in Sri Lanka.

Methods: A descriptive cross-sectional study was conducted among a convenient sample of 325 nursing students using a pre-tested online questionnaire. Descriptive statistics and chi-square tests were used in data analysis.

Results: Out of 317 valid responses, 46.4% had good knowledge while 53.6% had good attitude on BLS. The majority were females (89.3%), Sinhalese (96.2%) and Buddhists (91.2%). Majority were from nursing schools (63.7%) and were in 3rd academic year (45.7%). Among the students 71.9% had had lectures, 34.7% had experienced and 40.7% had participated in training programmes related to BLS. Non-western province residence ($p=0.010$), academic year ($p=0.011$), BLS lectures ($p=0.001$), experience (0.009), practical training (0.010) were significantly associated with good knowledge. Following were statistically significantly associated with good attitude towards BLS. Religion ($p=0.027$), non-western province residence ($p=0.000$), academic year ($p=0.003$), having BLS lectures ($p=0.046$), training programmes ($p=0.001$), experience ($p=0.033$), practical training ($p=0.003$), time since last training ($p=0.005$)

Conclusions: From the study-population 46.4% had good knowledge & 53.6% had good attitudes towards BLS. Religion, non-western province residence, academic year, lectures, training programs, experience in BLS were associated with good knowledge & attitudes. Therefore, implementation of more training programs, lectures on BLS is recommended.

Keywords: Basic life Support, knowledge, attitudes, nursing students