

Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices on dengue and dengue control and the factors associated with the Utilization of the Dengue School Card (DSC)

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Introduction

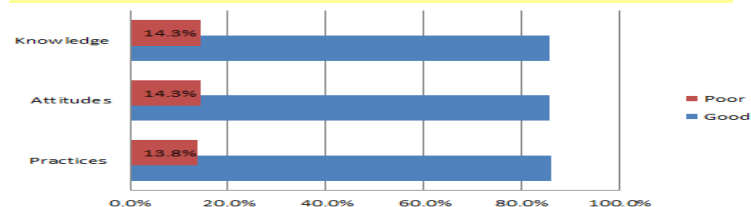
Dengue is hyper-endemic in Sri Lanka. Although multiple interventions are done to empower schoolchildren for sustainable dengue prevention and control, $\approx 30\%$ of dengue cases are reported among school-going age children. Hence, assessment of knowledge, attitudes and practices on dengue and dengue control and the factors associated with the Utilization of the DSC among government schoolchildren is paramount.



Methodology

A descriptive cross-sectional study was conducted among 782 (stratified multistage cluster sampling) grade 9 students in the district of Kalutara. A pre-tested, self administered questionnaire was used to collect data on the knowledge, attitudes and practices on dengue and dengue control, and the factors associated with the utilization of the DSC. The analysis was done using SPSS software with frequencies and the Chi-square test.

Results



Distribution of the total levels of KAP among the study population

There was a statistically significant association between utilization of the DSC and being a student of a Type 2 school ($p=0.003$), the level of knowledge ($p<0.001$) and good reported current practice on dengue and dengue control ($p=0.003$).

Conclusion and Recommendations

Schoolchildren had adequate knowledge, good attitude and practices on dengue and dengue control. Utilization of the DSC was associated with the Type of school attending, good knowledge levels and good reported current practices. Continuous improvement of knowledge and practices is recommended for better behavioral outcomes.