

**Knowledge, attitude, and practice on first aid and their influencing factors among Advanced Level students of the Nallur Education Division, Jaffna**

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**Background and objective:** First aid is important for the efficient management of injuries. The aim of this study is to describe the knowledge, attitude and practice of basic first aid measures and the influence of demographic and socio-economic factors on basic first aid among Advanced Level students in the Nallur Education Division, Jaffna.

**Methods:** It is a descriptive cross-sectional school-based study conducted among 838 Advanced Level students selected by proportionate cluster sampling. A self-administered questionnaire was employed to collect data. Overall knowledge was graded as good, moderate, and poor based on scoring of a series of single response questions. Attitude was assessed with a Likert scale and practice was assessed with multiple choice questions.

**Results:** The mean value scored for knowledge was 5.09, where 89 (10.6%) students had good knowledge, 439 (52.4%) moderate knowledge, and 310 (37%) poor knowledge regarding first aid. Prior knowledge in first aid had been received by 671 (80.1%) students. There was a statistically significant difference between level of first aid knowledge by subject stream ( $p=0.001$ ), sex ( $p=0.002$ ), father's educational level ( $p=0.019$ ) and having previous exposure to first aid knowledge ( $p=0.001$ ). Regarding practice, the number of students who had faced situations where they provided first aid was 385 (45.9%), while 352 (42.0%) had faced situations where they were unable to provide first aid. In total, 546 (65.1%) students demonstrated a favourable attitude towards the need to learn first aid.

**Conclusion:** Advanced Level students of Nallur Education Division have moderate knowledge but poor practice on basic first aid. Their attitude towards the need to learn first aid is satisfactory.

**Keywords:** First Aid, Advanced Level, Knowledge, Attitude, Practice, Jaffna