

OP-15 : THE PATTERN OF QUALITY OF LIFE AND THE INFLUENCE OF SOCIO DEMOGRAPHIC FACTORS AMONG PATIENTS DIAGNOSED WITH RHEUMATIC FEVER FOLLOWING CLINICS AT TEACHING HOSPITAL, JAFFNA.

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Introduction : Rheumatic fever is an acute inflammatory disease. It occur among subjects of low sociodemographic status. Rheumatic heart disease is one of the most readily preventable chronic disease that affect their quality of life.

Objectives : To describe quality of life and the influence of socio demographic factors on it, among patients diagnosed with rheumatic fever.

Methods : The study is a descriptive cross-sectional conducted at Teaching hospital, Jaffna during January to March 2016. Interviewer administered questionnaires and data extraction forms were used to collect data among 296 patients. Data analysis was done using descriptive statistics and chi square test. Ethical approval was obtained from Ethics Review Committee, University of Jaffna.

Results : The mean age of diagnosis of rheumatic fever attack was 16 years and 60.8% subjects were diagnosed during 6 to 15 years. Most subjects were diagnosed on 2014(9.1%). In the study most were female (67.2%), from rural (81.1%) and studied grade 10 to 11 (50.7%). The families were commonly nuclear type (82.8%) and consist of 4 to 7 members (78.7%). Their monthly income was commonly from Rs.10,000 to 19,000 (44.3%). In assessing the quality of life majority 67.2% were most of the time happy, 50% were some of the time getting sickness a little easier than other people, 54.7% were a little bit of the time nervous, 53.7% were felt slightly feeling emotional and 63.9% were felt slightly of limitedness in day today activities. The age, sex and residence of the patients were significantly associated with the quality of life.

Conclusion : Rheumatic fever affects children as well as adults. The presence of rheumatic heart disease had affected the physical activity, socio emotional family activities and psychosocial aspects.