

Abstract of Master's Dissertation

No.1

| | | | |
|--|---|------|---------------|
| Course | International health development (MPH) | Name | Ken Yoshimura |
| Thesis Title | HEALTH SEEKING BEHAVIOR OF BEDE PEOPLE IN BANGLADESH WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO SNAKE BITES | | |
| <p>Objective :</p> <p>The objective of this study is to clarify the health seeking behavior of the Bede people in Bangladesh regarding snake bite and its outcome.</p> <p>Method :</p> <p>In Depth Interviews were made 1) with 44 Bede snake charmers, 37 males, and seven females, who have experienced snake bite in the last one and half years, and 2) with family members or relatives of the six deceased Bede snake charmer who died of snake bite in the last three years. Key Informant Interviews were made with twenty Bede traditional healers. With the support of the community leaders, the above participants were approached through the snow ball method. The data were analyzed using conventional content analysis.</p> <p>Findings :</p> <p>The average age of the 44 snake charmers was 41.5 years old. Although 33 of the 44 participants answered that hospital treatment is the best way to care for snake bite, only five went to the hospital for treatment. One victim was sent immediately to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital, received anti-venom treatment, and recovered. The other four didn't receive anti-venom treatment in the hospital. Most participants were treated by Bede traditional medicine, 26 used tourniquets, 20 used herbal medicine, and 7 used suction. Out of the 44 participants, 4 did not receive any treatment.</p> | | | |

Abstract of Master's Dissertation

No.2

| | | | |
|---|--|------|---------------|
| Course | International health development (MPH) | Name | Ken Yoshimura |
| <p>Of the six death cases, five cases occurred during a snake charming performance. Five victims received traditional treatment.</p> <p>One victim sought no treatment. None went to the hospital for the treatment.</p> <p>It was found these health seeking behaviors for snake bite are influenced by four barriers (acceptability, accessibility, availability and affordability) based on Bede's characteristics. Due to the barriers, they used limited traditional treatment such as tourniquet, mantra, suction, incision. Consequentially 2-3 persons died due to the snake bite in the community (among 10000 Bede people) and 24 had physical / mental aftereffect among 44 survival participants.</p> <p>Conclusion :</p> <p>In conclusion, only one successful anti-venom treatment was reported in this study. While many Bede people relied on snake charm business, and snake bite is a common occupational hazard among them, the accessibility to anti-venom treatment is terribly bad to the Bede community. To make the anti-venom treatment possible within the community or near the community, collaboration among the public sector modern medicine and the traditional medicine of Bede should be seriously promoted.</p> | | | |