



PATIENTS TRANSFERS TO PROVINCIAL GENERAL HOSPITAL RATHNAPURA: REASONS AND PERCEPTION OF PATIENTS

Kumara M.D.K.^{1*}, Jayamanne S.K.¹, Weerasekara N.¹, Udayanga V.J.² and Sangeetha I.A.²

¹Teaching Hospital, Karapitiya

²Provincial General Hospital, Rathnapura

kodidk@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

Judicial decision making is at utmost important in making a decision to refer to tertiary level. This was done to describe reasons and perception of patients among transfer to Provincial General Hospital Rathnapura (PGHR). A descriptive cross sectional study was done in PGHR. A 'transferred patient' is defined as a patient who is transferred from other government hospital of any category with a filled transfer form. A structured pretested interviewer administered questionnaire and a data sheet were used. Transferred patients were identified from the admission registry. Ethical approval was obtained from ERC, Ragama. Mean age of participants was 46.7 years (SD 17.9). Most were belong to 31-45 category (33.5%). There were more males (73.5 %). Most of transfers were originated from Base Hospitals (53.5%) and BH Diyathalawa had contributed to the majority. In most of instances obtaining Surgical opinion was noted as the reason for transfer (n=114, 26.5%) while 15.8% were sent requesting further management. There were more males among those who were transferred because of obtaining specialist surgical opinion ($p = 0.02$) and more females were among those were taken for Ultra Sound – Abdomen ($p = < 0.01$). Perceptions of the transfer among patients were assessed by asking 8 questions arranged in a likert scale. In most of responses subjects were happy about transferring them to PGH Rathnapura. Mean age of transferred patients was 46.7 (SD 17.9) and there were more males (73.5 %). Most of transfers were originated from Base Hospitals (53.5%) and Base Hospital, Diyathalawa had contributed to the majority. Obtaining Surgical opinion was noted as the commonest reason (26.5%) and there were more males among them ($p = 0.02$). In most of responses subjects were happy about transferring them to PGH Rathnapura.

Keywords: Patients transfers, Provincial General Hospital Rathnapura