

## **ANTIBIOTIC-ASSOCIATED DIARRHOEA IN HOSPITALIZED ADULT PATIENTS OF MEDICAL AND GENERAL SURGICAL UNITS OF TEACHING HOSPITAL, KARAPITIYA, GALLE**

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Antibiotic-associated diarrhoea (AAD) is a known adverse effect of antibiotic administration. It can be defined as a kind of diarrhoea which arises with the use of antibiotics for different purposes. Even though antibiotics are commonly prescribed, epidemiology of antibiotic-associated diarrhoea in Sri Lanka is poorly documented. This study was conducted to evaluate the prevalence and the factor influencing Antibiotic-Associated Diarrhoea in hospitalized adult patients in Medical and General Surgical wards of Teaching hospital Karapitiya.

A prospective descriptive cross-sectional study was conducted from March to April 2018. A total of 510 adult patients, who received antibiotics in the surgical and medical wards were enrolled for the study and followed-up, until their discharge from the hospital and data collected using questionnaires. Data was analysed using SPSS (version 22) software. 13.7% developed AAD, 14.7% developed mild diarrhoeal illness, and 71.6% didn't develop any diarrhoeal symptoms. The mean age of patients who were receiving antibiotics was 49 years, and 54% were male. Prevalence of AAD was influenced by the age of the patient, length the of hospital stay, number of antibiotics taken, duration of antibiotic therapy, number of co-morbid illnesses, use of enteral feedings, abdominal surgeries, use of intravenous only antibiotics, use of antibiotic combinations, the total number of antibiotics and use of some concurrent medications. In conclusion, this study shows that AAD is seen in our country even though the prevalence remains low in the selected wards of the Karapitiya Teaching hospital when compared to the other countries.

**Keywords:** *Adults, Antibiotic-Associated Diarrhoea (AAD), Prevalence, Risk Factors*