Editorial

The theme of the 2014 annual academic session is “Visibility and Voice in Public Health”. This year we hope to have a pre session workshop on “Innovative practices in strengthening Public Health” which will be presented by the public health staff. The main annual sessions comprise of four symposia which are of public health importance. The topics covered during these symposia are preventing vector borne diseases, towards MDG 5A its epidemiology, services and cost involved, challenges in provision of safe working environment and the aetiology of chronic kidney disease of unknown aetiology.

This issue of the journal publishes a national youth survey (2012/13) their health profile and risk behaviour in a selected group as the leading article. The original research article is on a current topic of public health importance which is a growing problem in our country namely, prevalence of overweight and obesity in grade 5 students in a selected Medical officer of Health area. The research report is on validation of household food insecurity which is a very useful tool to assess in Sri Lankan setting. The review article is also on an important public health problem in certain districts in Sri Lanka and the author has related the climatic factors associated with the incidence of leptospirosis. Finally we have a short communication on attitudes on health promotion among medical students its implications for future practice.

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