

Work-related health problems and associated factors among anaesthetists
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This descriptive study was carried I out with the objective of, describing selected work-related health problems and associated demographic and work - related factors among anaesthetists working in government hospitals in the Western Province of Sri Lanka. A self administered questionnaire was used to assess the work-related health problems and factors associated and the response rate was 87.9 percent. Anaesthetists were affected mostly by frequent episodes of spontaneous sleep than surgeons and physicians, while both categories anaesthetists and surgeons were often less alert after work than physicians. Surgeons were more susceptible to needle stick / sharp injuries than anaesthetists and physicians (p0.005). Majority of anesthetists (71.6 percent) suffered from some kind of musculoskeletal problem while commonest was back ache (27.2 percent). Prevalence of upper abdominal pain and burning sensation of abdomen among anesthetists were 33.2 percent and 45.4 percent respectively. Prevalence of skin changes in areas exposed to gloves and systemic allergies were 36.1 percent and 47.9 percent respectively.