

Colombo North Teaching Hospital: How Complete is Recording of Data in the Hospital Admission Form (Bed Head Ticket)?

**Pushpa Jayawardana
Chrisantha Abeysena**

Background

The BHT is meant to be a valid document useful for diagnostic purposes as well as a legal document. Hence it is important to have a record, complete with all relevant information.

Objective

To assess the completeness of recording of selected information in the Bed Head Tickets (BHTs) [Hospital Admission Form] at the Colombo North Teaching Hospital (CNTH), Ragama.

Methodology

A descriptive study was conducted at the CNTH. Study units were the BHTs of admissions from 1st January to 31st March 1999. Recording/non recording of relevant information on the BHT were noted.

Results

Total number of admissions was 28766. Of that 3316 (11.5%) records were not retrievable. The BHT number and the name of the patient had not been recorded in 20 (0.1%) and 52 (0.2%) BHTs respectively. Lapses in the recording of name of parent/guardian, address and age and date and time of admission were less than 2%. Occupation was missing in 9.1% (n=2311) of all BHTs and in 7.6% (1586/20865) of BHTs of patients aged \geq 19 years. Diagnosis was missing in 8554 (38.1%) BHTs.

Conclusions and Recommendations

There were lapses in the recording of relevant data. Training of staff, and redesigning of the BHT are recommended.

Key Words – Diagnosis, Hospital Admission Form, Occupation, Tertiary Care Institute