

## Perceptions of Elders and Care givers on 'Care given' to Elderly in their Residences: Qualitative study

K. Arulanandem<sup>1\*</sup> and G. Kisokanth<sup>2</sup>

People aged 60 years and over in the world are on increase. Care giving for elders becomes a challenge. Elders anticipate the respect, company, coordinated medical and personal care. Care giving is a complementary relationship to each other. A caregiver provides more than one aspects of care for an elderly and this study was aimed to explore the perceptions of elders and care givers on the "care given" to elders in their residences among selected divisional secretariat divisions in Batticaloa district. Qualitative methodology was used to explore the perception on 'care given' to the elderly. The participants were selected by convenience sampling method and twenty in-depth interviews, were conducted among elders and their caregivers separately. The content analysis was performed with audio taped verbatim transcripts. The three main themes were extracted on perception of elders on the care given (care receiving) as "A burden life with diseases and experiences linked with dependency", "Timely services relatively good communication, but frustrated care" and "open hearted care with compassion". Two main themes were extracted on the perception of care givers (care giving) as "happy and blessing", "financial crisis and unemployability". Appropriate training for care givers on care giving is needed in order to minimize the suffering of both elders and care givers. Upgrading knowledge and skill among care givers would enhance elders' participatory care.

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<sup>1</sup>Department of Primary Health Care, Faculty of Health Care Sciences, Eastern University, Sri Lanka.  
arulanandem64@hotmail.com

<sup>2</sup>Department of Supplementary Health Sciences, Faculty of Health Care Sciences, Eastern University, Sri Lanka.