

Foodborne Disease Risk Factors Among Women in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

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Abstract : The burden of foodborne diseases in Saudi Arabia is currently unknown. The objective of this study was to identify risk factors associated with these diseases among women in Riyadh. A cross-sectional study was carried out from March to July, 2013 where participants' responses indicated that they were at risk of these diseases through improper food-holding temperature (45.28%), inadequate cooking (35.47%), cross-contamination (32.23%), and food from unsafe sources (22.39%). The claimed food safety knowledge by 22.04% of participants was not evidenced by their reported behaviors ($p > 0.05$). This is the first study to identify the gap in food safety knowledge among women in Riyadh which needs to be addressed by the concerned authorities in the country by engaging women more effectively in food safety educational campaigns.

Keywords : foodborne diseases, risk factors, knowledge, women, Saudi Arabia

Conference Title : ICNSE 2015 : International Conference on Natural Science and Environment

Conference Location : San Francisco, United States

Conference Dates : June 07-08, 2015