Objective : To determine the level of awareness amongst health care workers on occupational safety and health.

Design: A cross sectional study was carried out using a self administered questionnaire. Setting : The study was done prior to the starting of an occupational safety and health training in a teaching hospital in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Participants : One hundred and seventy two health care workers who attended occupational health training in a teaching hospital were given the questionnaire prior to the start of the training. Participants consisted of various job categories comprising of doctors, nurses, lab technicians and administrative officers of the hospital. Main outcome measures : level of awareness was obtained through marks given for correct answers in the questionnaire. The marks obtained were further categorised into specific areas. Sociodemographic and job distribution of the participants were also obtained. Results : The mean overall marks was 66.8% which is considered good. Significant differences noted when the marks were categorised into specific areas. Participants scored the lowest in questions for legislation (48.6%). No significant differences were found across job categories, however those with longer duration in service appear to have better marks. Conclusion : The overall marks obtained in basic awareness of occupational safety and health issues was generally good. However, significantly lower marks were noted in the more in depth and specific questions. This calls for emphasis on more specific, action oriented programme in the future. Keywords: occupational safety and health awareness, Health Care Workers, Health Care Professionals, Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) 1994