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**ANTHROPOMETRIC STUDY OF YEAR ONE STUDENTS IN THE
HINDAGALA COMMUNITY HEALTH PROJECT AREA**

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This study was done on all year one students in an MOH area in the Kandy district during the month of July 1997 to assess the nutritional status of them based on their weight and height recordings.

Data on sex, ethnicity, age of mother, marital status of parents, mother's employment status, number of children in the family, birth order, birth interval, birth weight, duration of breast feeding, worm treatment, recent morbidity, annual family percapita income and socioeconomic status were obtained by administering a questionnaire to the parent/guardian of each subject. Data thus obtained on the various variables were correlated with the nutritional status of the subjects.

Of the total 273 eligible subjects in the area 246 (90.1%) participated. Only 51.7% of the subjects were normal, 28.0% were stunted, 8.1% were wasted and 12.2% had both stunting and wasting.

Analysis using chi square test showed that undernutrition of the subjects was statistically negatively associated with male sex, low birthweight, high and low annual family percapita income, and history of respiratory tract infection during the preceding three months.

To eliminate the confounding effects of the variables, further analysis was done using logistic regression model. The regression model identified male sex and low birth weight as the significant variables.