

“A COMPARATIVE STUDY TO ASSESS THE KNOWLEDGE REGARDING PAP SMEAR AS AN EARLY SCREENING OF CERVICAL CANCER AMONG WOMEN IN SELECTED RURAL AND URBAN AREAS OF DISTRICT GURDASPUR, PUNJAB”

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Abstract	<i>The present study was aims to assess the knowledge regarding Pap smear as an early screening of cervical cancer among women in selected rural and urban areas of district Gurdaspur. Comparative study design was used for the study. The study was conducted at shrihargobindpur city of district gurdaspur, village Rampur Talwara district Gurdaspur. The sample total 100 women dived into 50 urban and 50 rural. The data were organized and analyzed using both descriptive and inferential statistics according to objectives and hypothesis of the study. The tool consists of demographic profile; knowledge questionnaire was used to collect the data. Prior to data collection informed consent was obtained from the participants. The tools used for the study were unstructured self-structured questionnaire.</i>
Keywords	<i>PAP Smear, Screening, Cervical Cancer</i>

INTRODUCTION

Cervical Cancer is a cancer arising from the cervix. It is due to the abnormal growth of cells that have ability to invade or spread to other parts of the body. Cervical cancer is a disease that affects the cervix in the female reproductive system. The cervix is the lower portion of the uterus that connects the upper vagina to the uterus. It is about two inches in length. Cervical cancer is a disease that affects the cervix in the female reproductive system. The cervix is the lower portion of the uterus that connects the upper vagina to the uterus. It is about two inches in length. A Pap smear also called a pap test is a Screening Procedure for cervical cancer. It tests for the presence of precancerous or cancerous cells on the cervix. The cervix is the opening of the uterus. A pap test is vital component of a woman s health case regimen if you are over the age of 21; it is recommended that you have a pap test every three years. The conceptual framework which was used for the study was based on the health belief model, which is a psychological model that attempts to explain and predict health behaviors.

NEED FOR STUDY

It is reported that cancer is the cause for one tenth of all deaths and in developed countries it is 2nd most frequent cause of death. WHO reports that without rigorous control measures cancer will become the leading cause of death and there will be 300 million new cancer cases and 200 million deaths from cancer in the coming 25 years. Cervical cancer is the 5th most common cancer worldwide with approximately 471,000 new cases diagnosed each year. Globally every 2 minutes a women dies of cervical cancer and accounts for up to 300,000 deaths annually. In India 366.58 million women are at risk of developing cervical cancer. Currently every year 134420 women are diagnosed with cervical cancer and 72825 deaths from the disease. Cervical cancer ranks as the 1st most frequent cancer among women in India, and the 1st most frequent cancer among women between 15 to 44 years age group. In most of the countries, the incidence of invasive cervical cancer is very low in women under age 25. Incidence increases at about 35 to 40 years, and reaches a maximum in women in their fifties and sixties. Data from cancer

registries in developing countries indicate that approximately 80-90 percent of confirmed cases in these countries occur among women aged 35 or older. About 80% of the new cervical cancer cases occur in developing countries, like India, which reports approximately one fourth of the world's cases of cervical cancer each year. There has been a regular campaign against cervical cancer for 30 years in India, but this has had little impact on the morbidity and mortality from the disease, with India ranking fourth worldwide. The number of deaths due to cervical cancer is estimated to rise to 79,000 by the year 2010.

Are the causes of 75% of Cervical cases globally while 31 and 45 are the causes of another 10%

PBRC (population based registries cancer)	crude incidence rate	age-adjusted incidence rate
Punjab	18.8	21.7
Bearish	22.7	20.2
Bhopal	42.17	22.4
Chennai	22.2	24.5
Delhi	16.3	22.7
Mumbai	14.6	18.0
Ahmadabad	16.2	13.4
Bangalore	19.2	15.0
Kolkata	17.4	19.9
Nagpur	19.1	23.2
Pune	20.5	22.5
Thiruvananthapuram	13.1	10.9

BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

Cervical Cancer is arising from the cervix. It is due to the abnormal growth of cells that have ability to spread to other parts of the body. Early on, typically no symptoms are seen. Later symptoms may include abnormal vaginal bleeding, pelvic pain or pain during sexual intercourse. White bleeding after sex may not be serious; it may also indicate the presence of cervical Cancer. Cervical Cancer Symptoms include: Loss of

appetite, Weight loss, fatigue, pelvic pain, Back pain, Leg pain, Swollen Legs, bone fractures legs, Heavy vaginal Bleeding, Bone fractures and Leakage of urine or feces from the vagina Cervical Cancer may have cause include human Papillomavirus types 16 and 18 re the causes of 75% of Cervical cases globally while 31 and 45 are the causes of another 10%

OBJECTIVES

1. To assess the knowledge regarding Pap smear as an early screening of cervical cancer among women in selected rural areas.
2. To assess the knowledge regarding Pap smear as an early screening of cervical cancer among women in selected urban areas.
3. To compare the knowledge regarding Pap smear as an early screening of cervical cancer among women in selected rural and urban areas.
4. To determine the association of knowledge regarding Pap smear as an early screening of cervical cancer among women in selected rural and urban areas with their selected socio demographic variables.
5. To prepare an informational booklet on knowledge regarding Pap smear as an early screening of cervical cancer.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

AIM OF STUDY

“The main aim of the study is to assess the knowledge regarding Pap smear as an early screening of cervical cancer among women in selected rural and urban areas of district Gurdaspur, Punjab”.

RESEARCH HYPOTHESIS

- H1. There was a significant difference in the knowledge regarding Pap smear as an early screening of cervical cancer among women in selected rural and urban areas.
- H2. There was a significant association between knowledge regarding Pap smear as an early screening of cervical cancer among women with their selected socio demographic variables.

RESEARCH APPROACH

In the view of nature of problem selected for the study and the objectives to be accomplished quantitative research approach was considered appropriate for the present study.

RESEARCH DESIGN

The investigator has control over the research situation and variables for the present study; comparative survey design is utilized to achieve the objectives of the study.

TARGET POPULATION

For the present study, population, women age group between 21-56 live in the selected urban and rural areas of district gurdaspur.

SAMPLE AND SAMPLE SIZE

The sample and sample size of present study was 100 women, 50 from urban areas and 50 from rural areas at selected areas.

SAMPLING TECHNIQUE

In the present study purposive sampling technique was used to select the sample.

RESULTS

The sample total 100 women divided into 50 urban and 50 rural. The data were organized and analyzed using both descriptive and inferential statistics according to objectives and hypothesis of the study. The level of knowledge regarding Pap smear, the result reveals that women in rural area, 17(34%) had poor knowledge, 31(62%) had good knowledge, 2(4%) had very good. The level of knowledge among women in urban area shows that, 14(28%) had poor knowledge, 30(60%) had good knowledge and very good knowledge 6(12%) regarding Pap smear as an early screening of cervical cancer.

The Comparison of Mean and SD of knowledge score regarding Pap smear among women in urban and rural area, the result reveals that the women in urban area had score range of 8-20, with an average mean and SD of knowledge score was 14.2 ± 3.33 . In rural area, women had score range was 8-19, with an average mean and SD of knowledge score was 13.3 ± 3.13 .

The findings of the study show that women in urban area and rural area had average knowledge Pap smear test for cervical cancer. To improve the knowledge of women in urban and rural area, awareness must be created among women. Educational programs can improve the knowledge level of women regarding the Pap smear test and its importance in preventing the cervical cancer.

DISCUSSION

The present aims to compare the Knowledge Regarding Pap Smear as an Early Screening of Cervical Cancer among Women in Selected Rural and Urban areas of District Gurdaspur, Punjab. The study was conducted at Shrihargobindpur and Sarpanch of Rampur Talwara, Gurdaspur. 100 women (50 urban and 50 rural areas) were selected for the study. The tool consists of demographic data and structured knowledge questions to collect the data. Prior to data collection informed consent was obtained from the participants. The data was collected and analyzed by using descriptive and inferential statistics. The results of the study were organized according to the objectives of the study.

The first objective of the study was to assess the knowledge regarding Pap smear as an early screening of cervical cancer among women in selected urban areas.

The level of knowledge regarding Pap smear among women in urban area, 14(28%) had poor knowledge, had good knowledge 30(60%) and 6(12%) had very good knowledge.

The second objective of the study was to assess the knowledge regarding Pap smear as an early screening of cervical cancer among women in selected rural areas.

The level of knowledge among women in rural area shows that, 17(34%) had poor knowledge, 31(62%) had good knowledge and 2(4%) had very good knowledge regarding Pap smear as an early screening of cervical cancer.

The third objective of the study was to compare the knowledge regarding Pap smear as an early screening of cervical cancer among women in selected rural and urban areas.

The Comparison of Mean and SD of knowledge score regarding Pap smear among women in urban and rural area, the result reveals that the women in urban area had score range of 08-20, with an average mean and SD of knowledge score was 14.2 ± 3.33 . In rural area, women had score range was 8-19, with an average mean and SD of knowledge score was 13.3 ± 3.13 . The result of the study reveals that there is no significance difference between level of knowledge regarding Pap smear among women in urban and rural area.

The fourth objective of the study was to determine the association of knowledge regarding Pap smear as an early screening of cervical cancer among women in selected rural and urban areas with their selected socio demographic variables.

The result reveals that demographic variables such as, education, occupation, parity, history of conception, menstrual history and age at menarche was not found significant association with level of knowledge among women regarding pap smear on screening of cervical cancer in urban area. Age and marital status was found significant association with level of knowledge among women regarding pap smear on screening of cervical cancer in urban area.

CONCLUSION

The findings of the study show that women in urban area and rural area had average knowledge Pap smear test for cervical cancer. Pap smear is the screening test for cervical cancer. So the study suggests that women must have adequate knowledge regarding the Pap smear test to prevent them from cervical cancer. To improve the knowledge of women in urban and rural area, awareness must be created among women. Educational programmed can improve the knowledge level of women regarding the Pap smear test and its importance in preventing the cervical cancer.

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