

A STUDY TO ASSESS THE KNOWLEDGE REGARDING CERVICAL CANCER AMONG 1ST YEAR B.SC. NURSING STUDENTS IN P.E.S NURSING COLLEGE AT KUPPAM, CHITTOOR DISTRICT

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Abstract

Cervical cancer is a cancer arising from the cervix. It is due to the abnormal growth of cells that have the ability to invade or spread to other parts of the body. Early on, typically no symptoms are seen. Cervix carcinoma is the predominantly squamous cell cancer. Cervical cancer is less common than it once was because of early detection of cell changes by Pap smear test. The Preventive measures include regular pelvic examinations and pap smear tests for all women, especially older women who are past childbearing age. This study was undertaken to assess the knowledge of cervical cancer among 1st year B.Sc nursing students in a selected College of Nursing at KUPPAM with objectives of A descriptive research design was used to assess the knowledge of cervical cancer among 1ST year B.sc nursing students. The Data was collected from 60 B.Sc nursing students of P.E.S college of nursing by using structured questionnaire Method. The study result was revealed that the average age group of the sample were 18 to 21 years. All the students of this study are 1st year B.Sc nursing students. In the end of the study and After items analysis, the findings show that there is no significant association between socio-demographic variables (age, sex, residence, religion, previous information on cervical cancer, provided care to cervical cancer patients, previous exposure to patient with cervical cancer.) and the knowledge on cervical cancer. The study findings shows that there is no significant association between the knowledge level of cervical cancer and the selected variables like age, sex, residence, religion, family income, previous information on cervical cancer, care provided to patients with cervical cancer.

Keywords: cervical cancer, knowledge, assessment

INTRODUCTION

Cervical cancer is the second most common type of cancer in women worldwide, after breast cancer. Cancer of the cervix is a significant public health problem globally, especially in developing countries where it is the most common cancer in women. In the developing countries bear a

disproportionate burden of the disease, experiencing age-standardized mortality rate that are twice those experienced in developed countries. Every year, approximately half a million new cases of cancer of the cervix are reported globally, most of the cases which occurs in developing countries, were the disease is also the leading cause of cancer related deaths among women. The huge disparities in morbidity and mortality between developed and developing countries exist largely because over the last few decades, developed countries have implemented effective programs for the prevention of cancer of the cervix, in some countries reducing incidence and mortality rate. In 1998, it was reported the 12,800 women in the United States developed cancer of the uterine cervix and 4800 women dies of the disease.¹

Overall, Cervical cancer is relatively uncommon in the developed countries of the world, where intensive screening programs are in place. Since the advent and widespread use of screening Pap (Papanicolaou) smears, which detect asymptomatic preinvasive lesions at the earliest stages, the incidence of cervical cancer has dramatically decreased from 32 cases per 100,000 women in the 1940s to 8.3 cases per 100,000 women in the 1980s. Cervical cancer is as a result of Human Papilloma Virus which is transmitted through sexual intercourse, in most cases the male is a carrier of the papilloma virus that infects and generates in females. Despite the risks of the HPV virus both males and females are hardly aware of the virus and the risks it carries.²

NEED FOR THE STUDY

A research study shown that Continued progress and education about screening may allow for earlier detection and higher cure rates. The International Collaboration of epidemiological studies of cervical cancer was set up in 2003 to bring together, reanalyse, and publish the worldwide data on hormonal contraceptive use & cervical cancer risk. The collaboration has also published reports on the role of smoking and reproductive factors. The present report concerns the role played by a woman's lifetime no of sexual partners and age at first sexual intercourse. Unlike the risk factors previously studied by the collaboration, sexual behaviours are intimately connected to the acquisition of HPV, which causes cervical cancer.⁷

In early days the cervical cancer was not diagnosed of the begging so that many women have expired due to the lack of awareness regarding this condition and its treatment.⁸ According to WHO, Cervical cancer occurs when the cells in the cervix begin to grow and replicate in an abnormal and uncontrolled way. Cervical cancer usually results from a viral infection by the human papillomavirus (HPV).

METHODOLOGY

This chapter describes the research methodology formulated for the problem selected to assess the knowledge regarding cervical cancer among first year B.Sc Nursing students . This phase of study include research approach, design, variables, setting of the study, population, criteria for selection of sample, inclusion criteria, exclusion criteria, sampling technique, sample size, development of the tool, scoring, data collection procedure and data analysis plan.

RESEARCH APPROACH AND DESIGN:

Descriptive survey approach and non-experimental descriptive research was used. survey approach was aimed at investigating the knowledge regarding cervical cancer among first year B.Sc

nursing students . The aim of the descriptive research is to obtain accurate and meaningful description of phenomenon under the study. The main objective of the descriptive research is to have an accurate portrayal of the characteristics of persons, situations or group and the frequency with which certain phenomenon occur.

ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

Data analysis and interpretation is the process of organizing and synthesizing data so as to answer research questions and tests hypothesis.

DATA INTERPRETATION

Data interpretation is the process of reviewing data through some predefined processes which will help assign some meaning to the data and arrive at a relevant conclusion.

Figure 5.2: Distribution of students based on age group

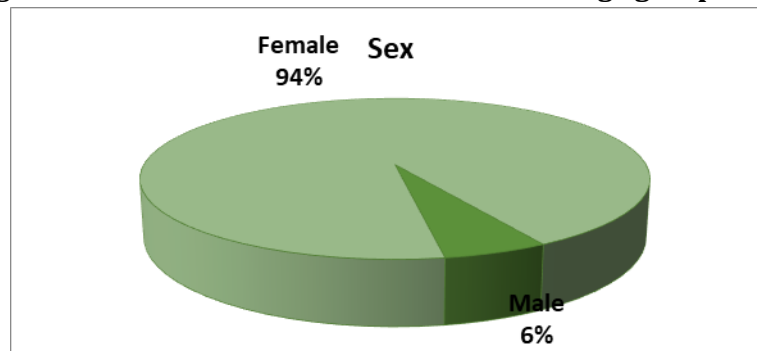


Figure 5.3: Distribution of students based on sex

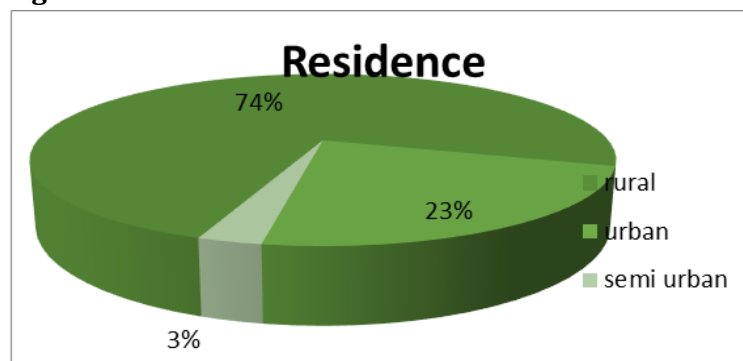
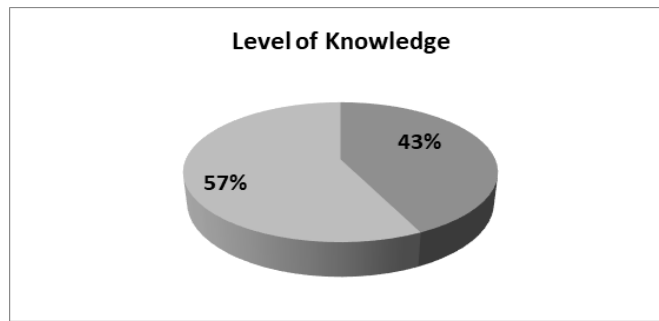


Figure 5.8: Distribution of students based on providing care to cervical cancer patient

Level of knowledge	Frequency	Percentage	Total
< 17 (Poor)	40	30	70
> 17 (Good)	57.1	42.9	100

Section II: Table 6.4: Level of knowledge regarding Cervical cancer N=70



CONCLUSION

It is found that majority of students have below median level of the knowledge about the cervical cancer and regarding its causes, signs and symptoms and diagnosis and there were no significant association between socio-demographic variables and knowledge on cervical cancer condition and side effects. The present study “A Study to assess the knowledge level regarding cervical cancer among 1st year B.Sc nursing students in P.E.S college of Nursing, Kuppam.chittoor district” is aimed to elicit the knowledge of the 1st year B.Sc. Nursing students. The hypothesis (H1), 1st year B.Sc. Nursing students have knowledge regarding cervical cancer was rejected. The hypothesis (H0) 1st year B.Sc. Nursing students do not have knowledge regarding cervical cancer was accepted.

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