

Original Research Paper

Oncology

KAP STUDY ON CARCINOMA CERVIX AMONG WOMEN OF REPRODUCTIVE AGE GROUP IN A TERTIARY CARE CENTREzz

Dr.K.L.JayakumarProfessor & HOD Department of Radiation Oncology Sree Mookambika
Institute of Medical Sciences.Dr.S.P.Girish*Assistant Professor Department of Radiation Oncology Sree Mookambika
Institute of Medical Sciences. *Corresponding Author

ABSTRACT BACKGROUND: Cancer of the uterine cervix is a killer disease, which affects the female population in India. Next to breast cancer, cervical cancer is the most dreadful type of human cancer. The risk factors known to increase the incidence of cervical cancer are : early marriage (child marriage) and sexual practice, delivery of the first baby before the age of 20, too many or too frequent childbirths, multiple sexual partners, poor practice of personal hygiene, low socio economic status, Human Papilloma Virus, Herpes Simplex Virus type II, HIV positivity, use of oral contraceptive pill, smoking etc. Despite the availability of cervical cancer screening in facilities in government hospitals and wide spread availability of HPV vaccination, the burden of cervical cancer presenting in very advanced stages of the disease is very high in India.OBJECTIVES: To assess and compare the knowledge, attitude and practices regarding cervical cancer screening (Pap test) and HPV vaccination, among women of reproductive age METHODOLOGY: A Cross sectional study in which a pretested questionnaire is used which consists of demographic details of the participants and a set of questions about cancer cervix RESULTS : Among the 140 participants of this study awareness of Cancer cervix is 100 % and about risk factor knowledge it was 85%.

KEYWORDS : cervix, knowledge, cancer, reproductive age group

INTRODUCTION

Cancer of the uterine cervix is a killer disease, which affects the female population in India. Next to breast cancer, cervical cancer is the most dreadful type of human cancer. Worldwide cancer cervix affects about 16/100,000 women per year and kills about 9/100,000 per year globally. The current estimates indicate approximately 132,000 new cases diagnosed and 74,000 deaths annually in India, accounting to nearly 1/3 rd of the global cervical cancer deaths¹.

Cervical cancer is the most common cancer among Indian women of reproductive age². The risk factors known to increase the incidence of cervical cancer are : early marriage (child marriage) and sexual practice, delivery of the first baby before the age of 20, too many or too frequent childbirths, multiple sexual partners, poor practice of personal hygiene, low socio economic status, Human Papilloma Virus, Herpes Simplex Virus type II, HIV positivity, use of oral contraceptive pill, smoking etc^{3.4}.

Methods of prevention, early detection and treatment are well established that include vaccination against HPV as primary prevention.Pap test for early identification and treatment of precancerous/cancerous lesion of uterine cervix include secondary prevention which can lead to better prognosis and survival⁵⁶.

Despite the availability of cervical cancer screening in facilities in government hospitals and wide spread availability of HPV vaccination, the burden of cervical cancer presenting in very advanced stages of the disease is very high in India, due to poor utilization of these services.

AIMS & OBJECTIVES

To assess and compare the knowledge, attitude and practices regarding cervical cancer screening (Pap test) and HPV vaccination, among women of reproductive age

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Study type: Cross sectional study

Study area:

Department Of Radiation Oncology Sree Mookambika Institute of Medical sciences

Study period:

6 Months(August 2021-january 2022)

Sample size:

 $n = 4pq/d^{2}$, where $p = 42.1\%^{7}$

(Ananthanarayanan et al⁷ showed that 42.1% of the females percieved themselves are not at the risk of developing carcinoma cervix)

 $\begin{array}{l} q = 100 - 42.1 = 57.9 \\ d^2 = 20 \times 42.1 \div 100 = 70.89 \\ Hence, n = (4 \times 42.1 \times 57.9) \div 70.89 = 137.5 \ rounded \ off \ to \ 140 \end{array}$

Sampling technique:

Simple random sampling

Inclusion criteria :

Women of reproductive age group (15-49)

Exclusion criteria :

Those who are not willing to participate

Study Tool:

a pretested questionnaire was used which consists of demographic details of the participants and a set of questions about cervical cancer

Study procedure:

After approval of study protocol from the Institutional Research Committee and Institutional Human Ethical Committee written and informed consent was taken from the study participants attending the outpatient departments of Sree Mookambika institute of medical sciences, Kulasekharam.

Variables and techniques: -

Qualitative variables expressed as frequencies and percentages - Quantitative variables expressed as Mean and Standard Deviation. . The p value of less than 0.05 was set as the level of significance .Data were entered in Microsoft Excel (Windows 7; Version 2007) and analyses were done using the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) for Windows software (trial version 22.0; SPSS Inc, Chicago)

VOLUME - 11, ISSUE - 04, APRIL - 2022 • PRINT ISSN No. 2277 - 8160 • DOI : 10.36106/gjra

Funding: Nil

RESULTS:

Among the 140 study participants, Majority of the study participants belongs to lower socioeconomic status. 46.2% are well aware about cancer cervix. 45% of total participants have the opinion that carcinoma cervix is seen more commonly in women above 49 years. 42.7% the cause is early child birth. in our study knowledge about causative organism for carcinoma cervix is 35% viral, 155 bacteria and others are 50% respectively. Only 10.5% participants have awareness about pap test and 43.4% have awareness about vaccination against cancer cervix.

DISCUSSION:

This study indicates the awareness about cancer cervix and its treatment among the people who attending the Department Of Radiotherapy Sree Mookambika Institute of Medical sciences.

VV Anantharaman etal⁷ in their study shows 100% of HCPs were aware of Cervical Cancer. 85% of the HCPs were aware of the major risk factors and symptoms of cancer cervix. About 95.3% of HCPs were aware of the cervical cancer screening either Pap smear or visual inspection using acetic acid or Lugol's iodine. Only 57.9% felt that they were at risk of cervical cancer. Wheb compared with our study the awareness knowledge was 46.2%

A Cross sectional study done by Swarnapriya K etal⁶ in her study The proportion of women who were aware of the tests available for cervical cancer was 61.9% and 41.6%, who were aware of vaccine was 47.6% and 31.9%) in employed and unemployed group respectively.But in our study the awareness about vaccine is only 43.4%. Study on the prevalence and KAP regarding cervical cancer among women attending a tertiary care hospital in Perambalur, 2015 by Varadheswari T etal ⁸ showed 56.75% of the study population had satisfactory knowledge while 6.75% had only poor knowledge about cervical cancer, its screening modalities and its significance. The participants had showed 83.78% positive attitude towards cervical cancer screening. Various studies^{9,10} showed that tht majority of participants were not undergoing screening for cervical cancer. In our study to the screening acceptance and knowledge was low.

CONCLUSIONS:

Major concerns include poor knowledge of even antiquated techniques like Pap test and unwillingness to undergo screening. Healthcare professionals need to be at the forefront of a new program that enables greater awareness and utilization of screening amongst women. A developing country like India demands a nation-wide cervical cancer screening program to tackle a major burden on women's health.

REFERENCES:

- Sherris J, Wittet S, Kleine A, Sellors J, Luciani S, Sankaranarayanan R. Evidence-based, alternative cervical cancer screening approaches in lowresource settings. Article en Français. 2009;35(3) Special Report
- Bansal AB, Pakhare AP, Kapoor N, Mehrotra R, Kokane AM. Knowledge, attitude, and practices related to cervical cancer among adult women: A hospital-based crosssectional study. Journal of natural science, biology, and medicine. 2015 Jul;6(2):324.
- Siddharthar J, Rajkumar B, Deivasigamani K. Knowledge, awareness and prevention of cervical cancer among women attending a tertiary care hospital in Puducherry, India. J Clin Diagn Res. 2014;8:OC01.
- Sankaranarayanan R, Rajkumar R, Arrossi S, Theresa R, Esmy PO, Mahe C, et al. Determinants of participation of women in a cervical cancer visual screening trial in rural south India. Cancer Detect Prev. 2003;27:457–65
- Varughese NR, Samuel CJ, Dabas P. Knowledge and practices of cervical cancer screening among married women in a semi-urban population of Ludhiana, Punjab. CHRISMED J Health Res. 2016;3:51
- Swamapniya K, Kavitha D, Reddy GM. Knowledge, attitude and practices regarding HPV vaccination among medical and para medical in students, India a cross sectional study. Asian Pacific Journal of Cancer Prevention. 2016;16(18):8473-7
- Anantharaman VV, Sudharshini S, Chitra A. A cross-sectional study on knowledge, attitude, and practice on cervical cancer and screening among female health care providers of Chennai corporation, 2013. Journal of Academy of Medical Sciences. 2012 Oct 1;2(4)

- Varadheswari T, Dandekar RH, Sharanya T. A study on the prevalence and KAP regarding cervical cancer among women attending a tertiary care hospital in Perambalur. International Journal of Preventive Medicine Research. 2015;1(3):71-8.
- Dulla D, Daka D, Wakgari N. Knowledge about cervical cancer screening and its practice among female health care workers in southern Ethiopia: A crosssectional study. Int J Womens Health. 2017;9:365.
- Narayana G, Suchitra MJ, Sunanda G, Ramaiah JD, Kumar BP, Veerabhadrappa KV. Knowledge, attitude, and practice toward cervical cancer among women attending Obstetrics and Gynecology Department: A cross-sectional, hospital-based survey in South India. *Indian J Cancer.* 2017;54:481