



SCREENING OF WOMEN OF REPRODUCTIVE AGE GROUP FOR PRECANCEROUS CHANGES OF CERVIX AND RISK FACTORS OF CANCER CERVIX IN SELECTED COMMUNITY OF WEST BENGAL.

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ABSTRACT One fourth of the world's cases of cervical cancer occur in the developing countries like India each year. A descriptive study was conducted for Screening of Women of reproductive age group for precancerous changes of cervix and risk factors of cancer cervix in selected community of West Bengal. Non probability convenient sampling technique were adopted to select 150 women for the study. A valid and reliable data collection tools were used to collect the required data. The study findings revealed that the rate of precancerous changes were 5 % and many risk factors were assessed. The study concluded that the women were at increased risk of acquiring cervical cancer as they had many risk factors contributing to the same.

KEYWORDS :

INTRODUCTION :

Cervical Cancer is an entirely preventable disease as the different screening, diagnostic and therapeutic procedures are effective. In developing countries where mass screening cannot be extended and majority of cases of carcinoma cervix are diagnosed at an advanced stage, 'down staging screening' offers at least an early detection of disease. Cervical cancer kills around 72, 000 women in India every year, more than 26% of the 275,000 deaths worldwide was reported by the Cervical Cancer Free Coalition, published in 2015. It is estimated approximately 471,000 new cases were diagnosed with cervical cancer worldwide in the year 2010. In the Guidelines for Cervical Cancer Screening Programme, the Government of India and World Health Organization Collaborative Programme it was proposed to screen women using Visual Inspection after Application of Acetic Acid (VIA) at the PHC and then a single visit approach for further investigation and management at the District Hospital. The expected VIA positivity is 10-15%.

MATERIALS AND METHODS :

Study area

The present study was conducted in the selected clinic of Mahhamad bazar, B.P.H.C of Birbhum district, West Bengal.

Sample :

The sample consisted of 150 women of reproductive age group of selected community attending the clinic of Mahhamad bazar, B.P.H.C of Birbhum district, West Bengal.

Research variables :

Pre cancerous changes of cervix and risk factors of cancer cervix.

Sampling technique :

Probability convenient sampling technique was adopted in the present study to select the samples.

Data collection Tools and techniques :

Table 1 Data collection tools and techniques

Tool No.	Name of the tools	Variables to be measured	Techniques
I	Semi structured Interview Schedule	Demographic Variables	Interviewing
II	Risk factor assessment proforma	Risk factors	Interviewing
III	Visual Inspection of Acetic Acid (VIA) assessment proforma	Precancerous changes in the cervix	Application and Observation

Validity :

The content validity was obtained by giving the tools to 9 experts. The experts were selected on the basis of experience to related fields and interest in the problem area.

Reliability :

The reliability was done by internal consistency for semi structured interview schedule: Tool II was established by inter-rater method, where $r = 0.99$, considering the tool to be reliable. the reliability of Tool III was also established by inter-rater method and the calculated r was 0.97, considering this tool also to be reliable.

Ethical consideration

The study was conducted after taking permission from ethical committee of respective institute. Formal permission was taken from Principal West Bengal Govt. College of Nursing, SSKM Hospital, Kolkata, Director Health Services of W.B, CMOH, Birbhum district, West Bengal, DPHNO, Birbhum district, West Bengal. Informed consent was taken from each and every participant for maintenance of confidentiality.

Data Collection procedure

- After taking informed consents from each participants, screening was done on 150 women.
- Interviewing technique was used to identify the risk factors related to cervical cancer.
- After that VIA screening was done where 3-5 % acetic acid was applied to cervix and changes were observed after one minute.
- According to the result women with positive findings were referred to the medical officer present at the clinic and there they were referred to district hospital for further investigations.
- Approximately 20 minutes required by the investigator to complete the procedure of data collection.

RESULTS AND INTERPRETATIONS :

Demographic characteristics

Table 2 Frequency and percentage distribution showing the age, religion and educational status of women.

Demographic characteristics	Frequency	Percentage
Age (in years)	12	8
15-21	56	37.33
22-28	29	19.33
29-35	27	18
36-42	26	17.33
43-49		

Religion	135	90
Hindu	15	10
Muslim		
Occupation	117	78
House wife	30	20
Daily labour	3	2
Service		

Data presented in table 2 shows that majority that is 56 (37.33%) of the women belonged to group of 22-28 years of age group. It also shows that majority 135 (90 %) were Hindu. and 117 (78%) were house wife.

Rate of precancerous changes of cervix :

n=150

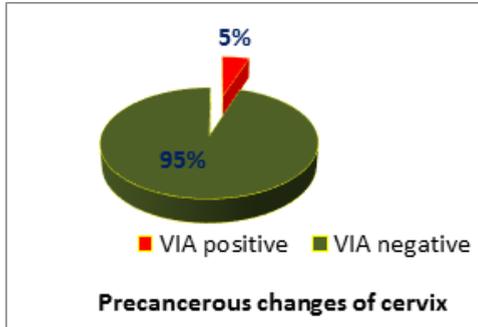


Fig. 1 Pie diagram showing percentage distribution of rate of precancerous changes of cervix according to VIA test findings

Data presented in figure 1 shows that the rate of VIA changes of cervix, where 5 % women were VIA positive and 95 % of them were VIA negative.

Assessment of Risk factors of cancer cervix :

Table 3 Frequency and percentage distribution showing the Risk factors of cancer cervix

n=150

Risk factors	Frequency	Percentage
Age at first coitus (in years)		
< 15	36	24
>15	114	76
Age at first child birth (in years)		
< 17	49	33
>17	101	67
No. of Child Birth		
< 07	143	95
>07	07	5
History of abortion		
Yes	03	2
No	147	98
History of sexual exposure more than one partner		
Yes	02	1
No	148	99
Husbands sexual history of having multiple sexual partners		
Yes	06	4
No	144	96
History of cervical cancer at first degree relative		
Yes	0	Nil
No	150	100
Practice of menstrual sanitary hygiene		
Napkin use	36	24
Cloth use	114	76
Presence of genital warts		
Yes	05	3
No	145	97

Data presented in table 3 shows that majority that is 76% women did first coitus above 15 years of age, 67 % women gave first child birth above 17 years of age, 95 % of women had less than 7 children, 98 % had no history of abortion, 99 % did not had multiple sexual partners, 96 % women husband did not had multiple sexual partners, 100% women reported no family history of cervical cancer, 76 % women use cloth during menstruation and 97 % women did not had any genital warts.

n=150

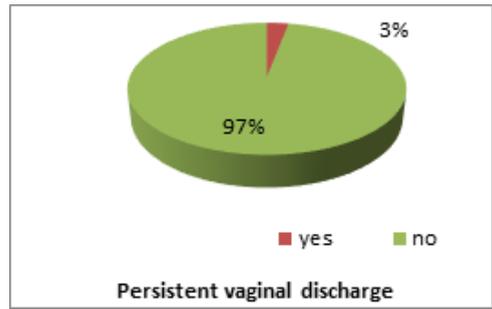


Fig 2 Pie diagram showing Persistent vaginal discharge

Data presented in fig 2 shows that 97 % of women did not had persistent vaginal discharge.

n=150

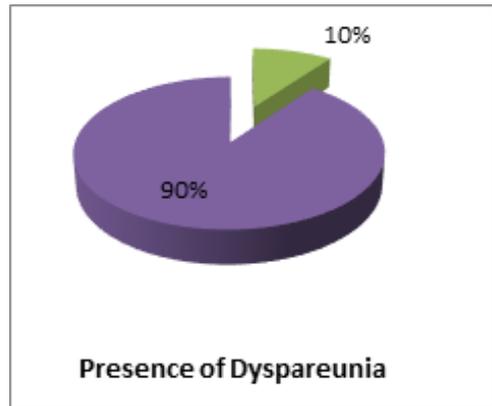


Fig 3 Pie diagram showing presence of Dyspareunia

Data presented in figure 3 shows that 90 % women had no history of dyspareunia.

CONCLUSION :

Result of the final study showed that precancerous changes takes place in 08 women among 150 women, so the rate of precancerous changes in cervix were 5 %. Extensive screening campaigns needs to be implemented with immediate effect to early diagnose cases to decrease the social burden of the disease.

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