

Assessment on Reproductive age group women’s awareness regarding cervical cancer in a selected slum area of Udaipur City with a view to develop an information booklet

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Abstract

Context: Cervical cancer forms in the tissues of the cervix (the organ connecting the uterus and vagina). It is usually a slow-growing cancer that may not have symptoms but can be found with regular Pap tests (a procedure in which cells are scraped from the cervix and looked at under a microscope). Cervical cancer is almost always caused by Human Papilloma virus (HPV) infection. Cervical cancer is malignant neoplasm of the cervix uteri or cervical area.

Present study was conducted to assess the awareness regarding cervical cancer among reproductive age group women in a selected slum area of Udaipur city with a view to develop an information booklet.”

The objectives of the study were

1. To assess the awareness regarding cervical cancer among reproductive age group women.

2. To find out the association between awareness regarding cervical cancer among reproductive age women with socio-demographic variables.
3. To prepare and distribute an information booklet regarding awareness on cervical cancer.

Method: A descriptive research approach with descriptive survey design was used for the present study. The sample consisted of 70 reproductive age group women at Machhala Magara, Udaipur who were selected by simple random sampling technique. The data was collected prior to and after the information booklet by self - administered structured knowledge questionnaire.

Results

Finding related to demographic variables

In the present study (51.43%) of women were from the age group of 26-35 years, (42.86%) of women were from the educational qualification of primary education,

(57.14%) of women were belongs to the joint family, (80%) of women were belongs to married, (55.71%) of women were engaged to other work, (57.14%) were belongs to family income 5001-10000 Rs

Highest (80%) level of awareness was found in area of sign and symptoms whereas lowest (44.29%) was in area of diagnostic & evaluation. Majority (47.14) of respondents had moderate level of awareness, 44.29 % had high and 8.57 % had low level of awareness.

The findings of the study revealed that there was statistically significant association between pre-test awareness scores and education and no association was found between pre-test awareness scores and age, type of family, marital status, occupation and family income. Therefore, H_{02} stated in the study there will be no significant association between the awareness of reproductive age group women and the selected socio-demographic variables regarding cervical cancer was neither rejected nor accepted it needs to be modified.

Conclusion: The present study was concluded to assess awareness regarding cervical cancer among reproductive age group women at Udaipur city.

A descriptive research approach with descriptive survey design was used for the present study. The sample consisted of 70 reproductive age group women at Machhala Magara, Udaipur who were selected by simple random sampling technique.

The data were collected by using structured knowledge questionnaires and were analyzed & interpreted by using descriptive & inferential statistics.

The overall pre-test means knowledge regarding cervical cancer was 47.14% (percent).

Keywords: Cervical Cancer, Awareness, Slum Area, Information Booklet.

Introduction

Cancer is a “Taboo” and the term cancer itself causes uneasiness to people who often believe it is untreatable. It takes up much of a person’s time in thinking about treatment and what the future hold. Cervical cancer or carcinoma of cervix refers to the malignant condition of the cervix. Despite being a disease that we have the power to control, cervical cancer shows significant disparities in incidence and mortality globally. Cervical cancer is a malignant neoplasm arising from cells originating in cervix uteri. It may be completely asymptomatic in early stages. In advanced stages, it may present as persistent pelvic pain, unexplained weight loss, bleeding between periods, unusual vaginal discharge, bleeding, and pain after sexual intercourse. Infection with human papilloma virus (HPV) types 16 and 18 cause 75% of cervical cancer globally. Other risk factors include tobacco consumption, multiple sexual partners, early age of sexual intercourse, increasing parity, prolonged use of oral contraceptive pills, and sexually transmitted diseases.

Need for the study

Indian government has introduced a variety of a national health programs and screening camps in various states in order to fight against the rising numbers of incidence and mortality among women due to cervical cancer. In spite of all these measures the no of incidences is not coming down rather increasing hence the researcher felt that there is an eminent need to find out, the women, in selected community possess what level of understanding about this dreadful disease and how necessary it is to provide information regarding cancer of cervix and its prevention to women, the researcher interested to assess the knowledge regarding cervical cancer among reproductive age group women.

The gap in the awareness level of women can be filled up by women through effective health education and mass awareness programme in the earlier stages of life. To play a key role it becomes mandatory for the women to know about cervical cancer. A study was conducted to assess the awareness about early detection and prevention of cervical cancer amongst women.

Review of literature

Brookfield KF, et.al (2009) conducted a study to identify and understand the effects of patient race, ethnicity, and socioeconomic status on outcomes for cervical cancer. Findings suggested in total, 5367 patients with cervical cancers were identified. The overall median survival was 43 months. Significantly longer survival was observed for Caucasians, the insured lived 63 months vs. 41.2 months for uninsured and patients from more affluent communities lived 53.3 months whereas <15% lived in poverty vs. 36.9 months.

Bates JH, Hofer BM, Parikh-Patel A (2008). to assess the cervical cancer incidence, mortality, and survival among Asian subgroups in California, the purpose of this study was to describe the relative patterns of cervical cancer incidence, mortality, and survival among Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean, South Asian, and Vietnamese women in California, using data from the California Cancer Registry. The Kaplan-Meier method was used to calculate survival differences adjusted for race and ethnicity, age, stage at diagnosis, socioeconomic status, and treatment factors. Findings suggested south Asian and Korean women experienced greater cervical cancer incidence and mortality than NHW women, whereas rates among Chinese, Japanese, and Vietnamese were comparable or lower.

Catherine Mc Carey, et.al (2011) conducted a descriptive study among students on awareness about

risk factors for cervical cancer and prophylactic Human Papilloma virus vaccine. The data collection was done by using a self-administered questionnaire. The samples were 400 female students. The result revealed that 98% of the students defined STD infection as HIV, only 37% of them indicated that HPV is one of the STDs. Only 16% of the students had heard of HPV vaccine for the prevention of cervical cancer. The study concluded that students' knowledge regarding the association of HPV and cervical cancer were not satisfactory.

Chocontá Piraquive LA, et.al (2010) conducted a study to evaluate the awareness of cervical cancer risk factors and screening behavior among students in a rural region. A cross-sectional design was used for the study. The samples consisted of students studying in secondary school. The finding revealed that 69.1% said that they had talked about cancer and cancer prevention with their families or friends; 11.3% of the students had a history of cancer in their families; and 63.9% thought that their knowledge about cervical cancer was adequate. However, there was a statistically significant relationship between those who had a Pap test and history of cancer in their family was not significant. In conclusion, the study has shown that most students knew less about the Pap smear test as a cervical cancer screening method.

Materials and Methods

The research approach adopted for this study was a cross-sectional survey approach as the researcher aimed at assessing the awareness regarding cervical cancer among reproductive age group women in a selected slum area of Udaipur city with a view to develop an information booklet.

The research design adopted is non-experimental descriptive design to assess the awareness regarding cervical cancer among reproductive age group women.

Dependent variable for this study was awareness of woman regarding cervical cancer and demographic variable are Age, educational status, type of family, marital status, occupation, family income.

Study population comprised of reproductive age group women from Machala Magara. the sample comprises of the reproductive age group women in selected slum area of Udaipur city. Considering the availability of subject and time available for data collection it was decided to include 70 reproductive age group women. Samples were selected by simple random sampling technique.

A structured knowledge questionnaire was used for data collection on awareness of cervical cancer from women who were living Machhala magara slum area of udaipur city. This section consists of 24 multiple choice questions related to awaerness regarding cervical cancer. Each multiple choice question has one correct answer and three wrong answers. For every correct response, score '1' was given and for incorrect response score '0' was given. The awarenes scores was arbitrarily divided into three catagories Low (below 50%), Moderate (50-75%), High (above 75%). The Pilot study was conducted during the month of July 28/7/2016 to 3/8/2016. A pilot study was conducted on 7 samples selected from slum area of Aloo factory at Udaipur city after taking consent. Kr 20 method was used to test the reliability of the tool and was found to be 0.86. The main study was conducted from 7/9/2016 to 20/9/2016. The sample included 70 women who were available during the period of data collection and were selected by simple random sampling method.

Data was planned to be analyzed as Description of socio-demographic variables, Mean, SD and mean percentage was used to describe the pre-test awareness scores of the respondents on cervical cancer and ANOVA was used to find-out the association between the pre-test knowledge scores of the respondents and selected socio-demographic variables.

Results

Section 1: Description of the socio-demographicdata of reproductive age group women on cervical cancer.

Table 1: Distribution of Respondents According to Age

Age	N	%
18 - 27 yrs	17	24.29
28 - 37 yrs	36	51.43
38 - 45 yrs	17	24.29
Total	70	100.00

Table 1 Depicts that majority of the respondents (51.43 %) were from the age group of 28-37 years of age, equal percentage (24.29) were from the age group of 18-27 years and 38-45.

Table 2: Distribution of Respondents According to Educational Qualification

N=70

Educational Qualification	N	%
Illiterate	0	0.00
Primary Education	30	42.86
Secondary Education	29	41.43
Graduate & Above	11	15.71
Total	70	100.00

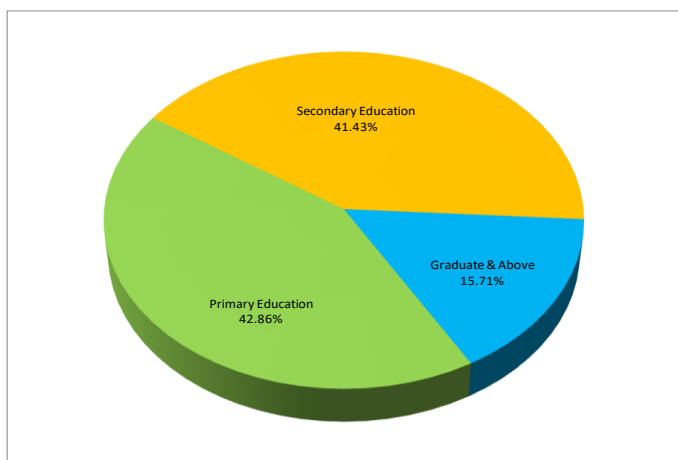


Figure 1: Distribution of Respondents According to Educational Qualification

Table 2 & figure 1 Depicts that majority of the respondents (42.86%) were having primary education, (41.43%) respondents had secondary education and the least (15.71%) were from the graduate & above.

Table 3: Distribution of Respondents According to Type of Family

N=70

Type of Family	N	%
Nuclear	22	31.43
Joint	40	57.14
Extended	7	10.00
No Response	1	1.43
Total	70	100.00

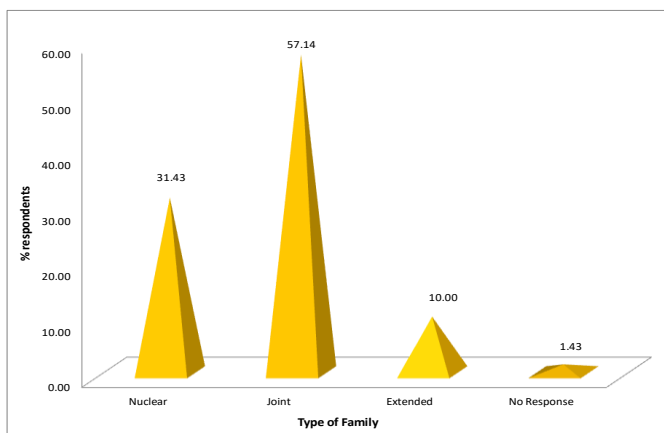


Figure 2: Distribution of Respondents According to Type of Family

Table 3& figure 2 Depicts that majority of the respondents (57.14%) were from joint family, (31.43%) nuclear family and the least (7%) were from the extended family.

Table 4: Distribution of Respondents According to Marital Status

N=70

Marital Status	N	%
Married	56	80.00
Unmarried	11	15.71
Widow	3	4.29
Divorcee	0	0.00
Total	70	100.00

Table 4: Depicts that majority of the respondents (80%) were married, (15.71%) were unmarried, and least percentage (4.29%) were widows.

Table 5: Distribution of Respondents According to Occupation

N=70

Occupation	N	%
Private Job	14	20.00
Govt. Job	3	4.29
Day Worker	14	20.00
Other	39	55.71
Total	70	100.00

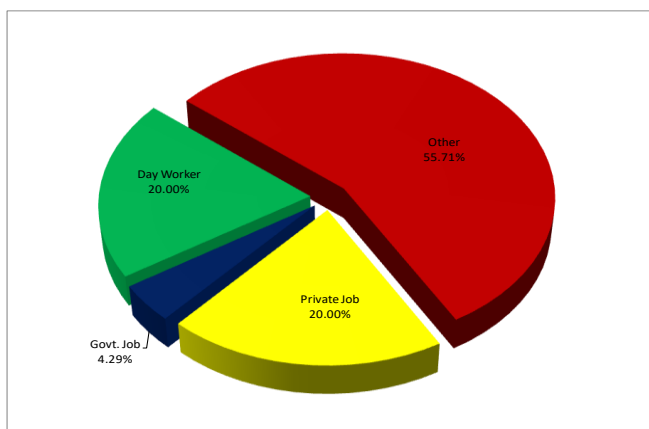


Figure 3: Distribution of Respondents According to Occupation

Table 5 & figure 3 Depicts that majority of the respondents (55.71%) were engaged in other work, equal percentage (20%) were from private job and daily wages workers and the least percentage (4.29%) were from the govt. job.

Table 6: Distribution of Respondent According to Family Income

N=70

Family Income	N	%
Up to Rs. 5000	3	4.29
Rs. 5001 - Rs. 10,000	40	57.14
Rs. 10,001 - Rs. 20,000	25	35.71
Above Rs. 20,000	2	2.86
Total	70	100.00

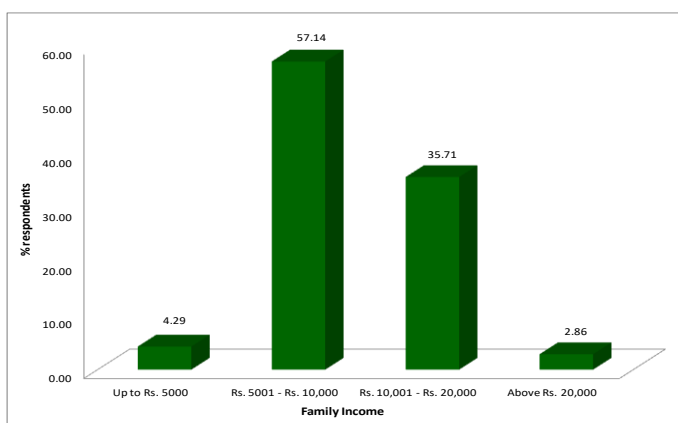


Figure 4: Distribution of Respondents According to Family Income

Table 6 & figure 4 Depicts that majority of the respondents (57.14%) were from family income Rs5001-10000 (35.71%) from 10000-20000, (4.29%) were from up to Rs 5000 and the least (7%) were from the family income above Rs 20000.

Section 2: Level of awareness among reproductive age group women on cervical cancer.

Table 7: Distribution of Respondents According to Level of Awareness

N=70

Category	N	%
Low	6	8.57
Moderate	33	47.14
High	31	44.29
Total	70	100.00

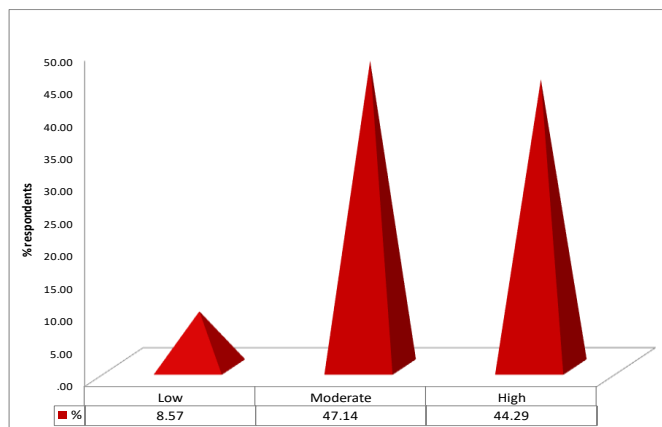


Figure 5: Distribution of Respondents According to Level of Awareness

Table 7 & figure 5 Depicted that majority (47.14) of respondents had moderate level of awareness 44.29 % had high and 8.57 % had low level of awareness.

Table 8: Distribution of Respondent Mean marks in Each Category

N = 70

Category	Mean	SD
Low	35.42	2.28
Moderate	48.99	6.16
High	71.37	7.51

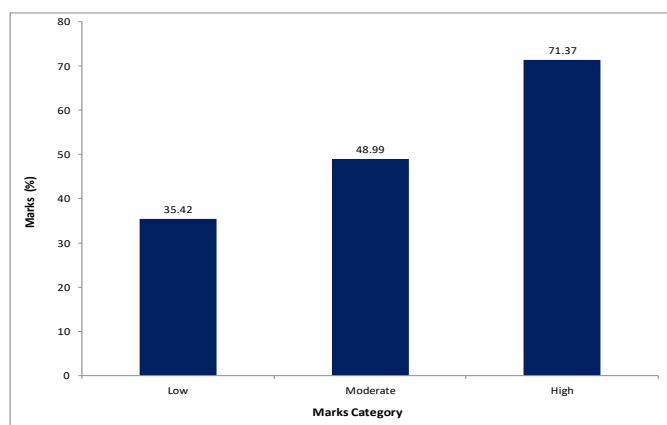


Figure 6: Distribution of Respondents Mean marks in Each Category

Table 4.8 & figure 4.8 Depicted that majority (71.37%) of respondents had high level of awareness, (48.99 %) had moderate and (35.42 %) had low level of awareness.

Table 9: Area-wise Awareness Scores of the Respondents Regarding Cervical Cancer

N=70

Sn.	Aspect	Mean	SD
1	Concept & Definition	60.29	22.20
2	Cause & Risk Factor	51.90	18.72
3	Sign & Symptoms	80.00	28.74
4	Diagnostic evaluation	44.29	32.46
5	Management & Prevention	60.00	24.23

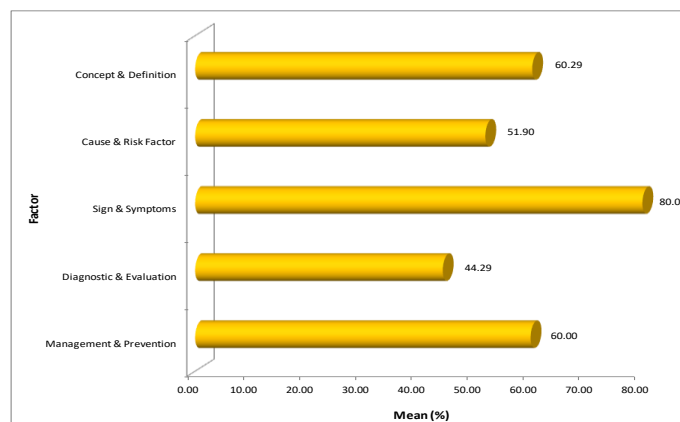


Figure 7: Area-wise Awareness Scores of the Respondents Regarding Cervical Cancer

Table 4.9 & figure 4.9 depicted that highest 80% level of awareness was found in area of sign and symptoms, 60.29% level of awareness was found in area of concept and definition, 60.00% level of awareness found in area of management and prevention, 51.90% level of awareness was found in area of cause and risk factor and the lowest 44.29% was in the area of diagnostic evaluation.

Major Findings of the study

Demographic characteristics revealed that 51.43% of women were from the age group of 26-35 years, 42.86% of women were from the educational qualification of primary education, 57.14% of women were belongs to the joint family, 80% of women were belongs to married, 55.71% of women were engaged to other work, 57.14% were belongs to family income Rs 5001-10000 In this study, 31 (44.29%) women had excellent awareness, 33 (47.14%) women had good awareness and 6 (8.57%) women had poor awareness. Exposure to age in year, education, type of family, marital status, occupation, family income of family had significance at 0.05 level of significance.

The findings of the study revealed that there was statistically significant association between awareness scores and education and no statistical association was

found for age, type of family, marital status, occupation and family income. Therefore H₀₂: stated in the study there will be no significant association between the awareness of reproductive age group women and the selected socio-demographic variables regarding cervical cancer was neither rejected nor accepted and need modification.

Recommendations

The following are the recommendations:

- As the study was conducted on 70 reproductive age group women. Hence, the same study needs to be conducted on a large scale.
- A comparative study on awareness of cervical cancer among reproductive age group women of different level of education s can be done.
- An experimental study may be conducted to assess the level of awareness regarding cervical cancer among reproductive age group women can be done.

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