Kenollege and practice of Iranian women toward cervical cancer

Ramazani Tehrani F. (M.D.)¹, Mohammad K. (Ph.D.)², Rahgozar M. (M.Sc.)³, Naghavi M. (M.Sc.)⁴.

¹- Assistant Professor of Obs & Gyn, National Center of Reproductive Health Research, Tehran, Iran.
²- Professor of Biostatistic, Epidemiology and Biostatistic Department, Faculty of Health, Medical Sciences University of Tehran, Tehran, Iran.
³- Ph.D. Student of Biostatistic Tutor of the University of Welfare and Rehabilitation, Tehran, Iran.
⁴- Chief officer of Health Management and Net Development Center, Deputy of Health, Ministry of Health, Treatment and Medical Education, Tehran, Iran.

Abstract

Cervical cancer is a preventable disease. However, more than 500,000 cases of invasive cervical cancers can be detected yearly. It has been proven that having information about the screening tests and regular practicing of Pap smear test decreases prevalence of malignant cervical cancer and prevents related mortality.

A national cross-sectional study were designed to assess knowledge and practice of 20-46 years old married women about cervical cancer. Using cluster sampling method 10449 married women were recruited and interviewed. The study demonstrated that 60-80% of women were informed about cervical cancer. 41.6% of women had practiced Pap smear test, at least once. However, 21.1% of women claimed that they practice the test more than 2 years ago. Regression model were used to indentify knowledge and practice of women toward cervical cancer. Using this model, Factors such as: educational level, age residence have significant effect on their practice. For improving knowledge and practice of women toward cervical cancer, using modern educational methods can be recommended.

Keywords: Cervical Cancer, Knowledge, Attitude, Practice, Pap smear test.

Corresponding address: Deputy Minister for Research and Technology Ministry of Health and Medical Education P.O.Box: 14155-6193 211 Azadi Avenue Opposite to Avesta Park Tehran-Iran.

Email: Frtehrani@Yahoo.com