



**THE EVALUATION OF THE SUSPECTED CASES OF CERVICAL CANCER, AMONG
WOMEN WHO WERE REFERRED TO THE GYNECOLOGY CLINIC OF IMAM
KHOMEINI HOSPITAL IN 2015-2016**

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ABSTRACT

Background and aim: The cervical cancer is the second most common cancer among Iranian women after the breast cancer and the third most common cancer in the USA after uterine and ovarian cancer. The papsmear test is one of the most effective and inexpensive tests which are used for the cervical cancer and illnesses screening. Despite the regular screening plans in the USA, there are still 31% of the cases of cervical cancer which had never have the papsmear test. In the developing this amount is almost 41%. According to the importance of papsmear test we decided to evaluate the epidemiological situation of the cervical cancer in women who have had the test.

Materials and methods: This study occurred in 1394-1395 in a sectional-descriptive form. The gathering tool for this study was questionnaire. The screening type for the cervical cancer was the famous papsmear test in this study.

Results: The results showed that, among 200 women who were referred to gynecology clinic, 82 women (41%) have had the papsmear test and 118 of them didn't have the test. 17% of women who have had the test were suspected of cervical cancer, 91% of women who have had the test

and 94% who hadn't have the test were married. But there is no significant difference between these two groups in case of education level.

Discussion and conclusion

Our study showed that the performance of women who are living in Ahvaz city was almost weak in response to the cervix cancer screening. Therefore it is recommended to establish proper training plans in city.

Keywords: Performance, pap smear, cervical cancer

1- INTRODUCTION

Preface and introduction of the plan the cervical cancer is the second most common cancer among Iranian women after the breast cancer and the third most common cancer in USA after uterine and ovarian cancer. The highest incidence of this cancer is in developing countries. (1-3). In Iran, the cervical cancer is one of the most prevalent cancer too and the third leading cause of death, after the heart disease and accidents. Unlike the developing countries, in rich countries the amount of deaths from the cervix cancer have been declined constantly in the past three decades. And this declined is because of screening plan. But in poor countries there are different factors which are preventing an effective, proper cervical cancer screening (5). The pap smear test is one of the most effective and inexpensive tests which are used for the cervical cancer and illness screening. In the absence of pap smear test, the damages can be only diagnosed by biopsy during the colposcopy

examination. Since it is not possible to invite all women to the clinic for biopsy test and colposcopy examination and since these diagnosing methods costs a lot money and require high expertise the pap smear test had been recommended and approved for cervical cancer screening in women in different societies. Although there are regular cancer screening plans in the United states, 31% cases of the cervical cancer occurs in women who had never have the pap smear test. In developing country this amount is nearly 41%. The American cancer society suggests that the cervical cancer screening should be start at the age 21 and should be done every 3 years until age of 30. After the HPV test should be done every 5 years until age of 65. Although the pap smear test is a simple, inexpensive, painless and almost reliable method, but most of women don't practice it as common method, based on the special orders which are recommended by the societies. The current study was done by the

evaluation of the suspected cases of cervical cancer in women who have had the pap smear test so it would be possible to take a step forward to remove deficiencies and improve the quality of women health services and society and establishing the training and consulting plans beside from determining the current status.

2-MATERIALS AND METHODS

This study occurred in 1394-1395 in a sectional-descriptive form. The gathering tool for this study was a questionnaire. The questionnaire was prepared based on the information in books, articles and managed care instructions by 33 health ministries which was about cervical cancer screening and the evaluation of pap smear test practicing on women. The number of samples calculated as 175 persons by using the formula according to former studies and considering the $p=49\%$, $z=1/96$, $d=0/15$. The required conditions to enter the study were: not being single, willingness to participate in the study, visiting the gynecology clinic and required conditions to exit the study was the dissuasion of the person herself. In order to analyze the information the SPSS-21 software was used.

3-RESULTS

After analyzing the results it was specified that, among 200 participants in this study, 81

persons (41%) said yes to the question: have you ever had the pap smear test? And 118 persons (59%) said no. the average age of the women who have had the pap smear test was 34.56 and the average age of women haven't had the pap smear test was 32.33.

The education level of under studied women in a group which have practiced the pap smear test were respectively: 14 persons: elementary school(17.1%), 12 persons the junior school(14.6%), 13 persons: high school(15.9%) and 43 persons : university (52.43%). And the education levels of women who haven't had the test were respectively: 16 persons: elementary school (13.6%), 19 persons: junior school (16.1%), 47 persons: high school (39.8%) and 36 persons: university (30.5%). There is no significant difference between these two groups in case of education level.

The marital status of the women who have had the pap smear test was : 75 married (91.5%), 5 divorced (6.1%) and 2 widows (2.4%) and in women who have never had the pap smear test, was : 111 married, (94.1%), 4 divorced (3.4%) and 3 widows (2.5%).

The results of the pap smear in women who have practiced it were normal in 68 cases (82.9%) and abnormal in 14 cases (17.1%).

Chart number 1: the education level of women who have practiced the pap smear test

Education level	frequency	percent	Valid percent	Cumulative percent
Elementary school	14	17.1	17.1	17.1
Junior school	12	14.6	14.6	31.7
High school	43	52.4	52.4	84.1
university	13	15.9	15.9	100.0
total	82	100.0	100.0	

Chart number 2: the education level of women who have not practiced the pap smear test

Education level	frequency	percent	Valid percent	Cumulative percent
elementary	16	13.6	13.6	13.6
Junior school	19	16.1	16.1	29.7
High school	47	39.8	39.8	69.5
university	36	30.5	30.5	100
total	118	100	100	

Chart number 3: the martial status of women who have practiced the pap smear test,

Martial status	frequency	percent	Valid percent	Cumulative percent
married	75	91.5	91.5	91.5
Divorced	5	6.1	6.1	97.6
widow	2	2.4	2.4	100
total	82	100.0	100.0	

Chart number 4: the martial status of women who have not practiced the pap smear test.

Martial status	frequency	percent	Valid percent	Cumulative percent
married	111	94.1	94.1	94.1
divorced	4	3.4	3.4	97.5
widow	3	2.5	2.5	100.0
total	118	100.0	100.0	

Chart 5: the results of pap smear test

	frequency	percent	Valid percent	Cumulative percent
normal	68	82.9	82.9	82.9
abnormal	14	17.1	17.1	100.0
total	82	100.0	100.0	

4-CONCLUSION AND DISCUSSION

In the current study among 200 participants, 82 persons (41%) have practiced the test but 118(59%) persons have not had the pap smear test. In Ramezani and co-workers study (8) 6/41 % of women have practiced the pap smear test for once in their lifetime. In the Solomon study (9) which was done on American women and Randolph (10) which was done on american-mexican women respectively 81% and 33% of women have

had the pap smear test for once. Therefore it seems that the awareness and performance of the under studied women in this project about having the pap smear test is less than other societies. In this study the age of most of the participants was between 30-39 years with the average of $56.34 \pm 96.8\%$ and there no relations were seen between age and having the pap smear test. In this regard, in the Borrás and co-workers study (1) the amount of having the pap smear test would

be decreased by the age increasing. In this study it was specified that being married has no effect on the awareness about the pap smear test practicing. Although it should be mentioned that 5/91 % of women who have had the pap smear test were married, the study of Ortiz and co-workers (12) also showed that the divorced women and widows have had less pap smear test than the other women who were living with their husbands, perhaps the reason of this fact that married women have had more pap smear test is that the divorced women and widows believe because they don't have husband, they don't need the pap smear test.

In this study it was specified that the education level has no effect on the practice of pap smear test because in a group which haven't done the pap smear test there were 43 university education level persons and 39 persons with high school level education. It can be presented that the awareness of pap smear test is not improving by the increasing of education levels which is not corresponded to the results of the study which was occurred in Boston. 17 % all the women who have had the pap smear test, showed abnormal results and were suspected of cervical cancer, the same results are expected for women who haven't had the pap smear test, therefore it can be said that a

significant percent of women are suspected of cervical cancer and because of the absence of pap smear test its not possible to calculate the real percent of patients and there will be no treatment as well. Our study showed that the performance of women who are living in Ahvaz is almost weak in respond to the cervix cancer screening. According to this fact that cervical cancer is one the few cancers which can be diagnosed and prevented and has very long morbidity duration, however, despite the low prevalence of this disease in Iran we cant overlooked the annual incidence from 400 to 500 women to this disease easily. Therefore the cancer screening must be done specially in the general health policy of prevention prior to treatment discussion.

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