

A Descriptive Study to Assess the Prevalence of the Risk Factors of Cervical Cancer among Women of Reproductive Age Group in Selected Rural Community of District Mohali, Punjab (2018-2020)

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Abstract: Cancer in general can be described as an abnormal and undifferentiated growth of cells. Cancer of the cervix is a cancer involving "abnormal growth of the squamous cells of the cervix". As the increasing burden of cervical cancer leads to a common cause of death in women. Various factors are associated with the occurrence of the disease like early marriage, multiple sexual partners, multiparity, age, socioeconomic status, smoking, contraceptive use and further more. The prevalence of cervix cancer is increasing day by day. The reproductive age women are found to be more prone to the disease due to lack of knowledge about the cervical cancer. The present study to assess the prevalence of the risk factors of cervical cancer among women of reproductive age group in village khizrabad, Mohali, Punjab was conducted on 100 samples who were reproductive (15-50years) who were married. Convenience sampling techniques were used to select the samples. Self-structured interview scheduled were used to collect the data. Tool validation is done by various experts. The findings reveal that prevalence of the cervical cancer is 9% in reproductive age group women (who were married). Prevalence of major risk factors were assessed and highest prevalence rate is among women were never went for HPV vaccine (100%) and pap smear test (98%). The women who were not using barrier contraceptives showing 73% prevalence rate and oral contraceptives have 25% prevalence rate. Early and late age of menarche showing 34% prevalence rate, steroid therapy used by women have 16% prevalence rate and 32% rate of excessive vaginal discharge. 59% prevalence rate is of women who were not taking fruits in a week. Early and late age of marriage, age at first intercourse, age at first conception have low prevalence rate that is 5%. Tobacco chewing is 3% prevalence and alcohol consumption is 0% rate. No women have sexually transmitted infection thus have 0% prevalence rate and family history of cervical cancer is 2% prevalence rate. Inferential statistics were used to find out the association between prevalence of the risk factors and socio-demographic variables. With the help of chi-square association were reveal as no socio-demographic variables were significant with the prevalence of the risk factors of cervical cancer. It is concluded that prevalence of cervical cancer is 9%. The highest prevalence rate is shown by risk factors women have never gone for HPV vaccine (100%) and pap-smear test (98%) and the lowest prevalence rate is of risk factors sexually transmitted infection (0%), multiple sexual partners (0%), alcohol consumption (0%). It is required that women have to provide knowledge and facilities regarding pap smear test and HPV vaccine.

Keywords: Descriptive study, prevalence, reproductive women, risk factors, convenient sampling technique, inferential statistics

1. Introduction

Cancer of the cervix is a significant public health problem globally, especially in developing countries where it is the most common cancer in women. India accounts for about 20% of cervical cancer cases reported from the world.

The American Cancer Society's estimates for cervical cancer in the united states for 2018 that about 13,240 new cases of invasive cervical cancer will be diagnosed and 4,170 women will die from cervical cancer.

Although the various risk factors increase the odds of developing cervical cancer. Women above 35 years of age is at greater risk. A study in England in 2014 revealed that cervix cancer in women among aged 20–24 years increased from 2.7 in 2012 to 4.6 per 100,000.

Various research has shown that women who are infected with the high risk types (16,18) of HPV are at higher risk. HPV serotypes 16 and 18 account for nearly 76.7% of cervical cancer in India.

The risk may also be increased in women taking immunosuppressive medications, women on a diet low in fruits and vegetables, women with long-term use of oral contraceptives and women in poverty. There is evidence that

taking oral contraceptives pills (OCps) for a long time increases the risk of cancer of the cervix.

IARC has listed tobacco smoking as a risk factor for cervical cancer. In the UK, an estimated 7% of cervical cancers are linked to tobacco smoking. Women who were younger than 17 years when they had their first full-term pregnancy, engaged in sexual activity in early age and multiple sexual partners also contribute to cervical cancer.

Although cervical cancer is most common in women older than 50 years, in developing nations, it is becoming increasing prevalent among women during their reproductive age 15-49 years.

2. Materials and Methods

A quantitative research was conducted in Khizrabad, district Mohali, Punjab on the reproductive age group (15-50) women who were married. 100 Samples were chosen by non-probability random sampling technique. A self-structured interview schedule was used to attain the objectives of the study. Descriptive and inferential statistics were used for data analysis. It is concluded that prevalence of cervical cancer is 9%. The highest prevalence rate is shown by risk factors women have never gone for HPV vaccine (100%) and pap-smear test (98%) and the lowest prevalence

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rate is of risk factors sexually transmitted infection (0%), multiple sexual partners (0%), alcohol consumption (0%).

Data Collection Procedure

The data was collected from 1 March to 5 March 2020. The written permission was taken from the Principal, Silver Oaks College Of Nursing, Sarpanch of village Khizrabad and informed consent was taken from samples. Self-structured interview schedule was used to collect the data from the sample. Total 100 subjects were selected using Non-probability random sampling technique. Daily 20 subjects were taken on the basis of inclusive and exclusive criteria.

3. Result and Discussion

The study was conducted in khizrabad, district Mohali, Punjab on the reproductive age group women who were married. Prevalence of major risk factors were assessed and highest prevalence rate is among women were never went for HPV vaccine (100%) and pap smear test (98%). The prevalence of various risk factors were studied under study which reveals the women who were not using barrier contraceptives showing 73% prevalence rate and oral contraceptives have 25% prevalence rate. Early and late age of menarche showing 34% prevalence rate, steroid therapy used by women have 16% prevalence rate and 32% rate of excessive vaginal discharge. 59% prevalence rate is of women who were not taking fruits in a week.

Early and late age of marriage, age at first intercourse, age at first conception have low prevalence rate that is 5%. Tobacco chewing is 3% prevalence and alcohol consumption is 0% rate.

No women have Sexually transmitted infection thus have 0% prevalence rate and family history of cervical cancer is 2% prevalence rate.

Chi-square test is used to find out the association and chi-square table were referring at 5% level of significance to check out the significant association.

It has been concluded from the findings of the study that highest prevalence is of risk factor women who were never

gone for HPV vaccine and pap-smear test, not using barrier contraceptive, using oral contraceptive. Early and late marriage, conception showing low prevalence rate.

Table: Frequency and Level of the risk of cervical cancer among women of reproductive age group, N=100

Score	Level of Risk	Frequency(N)	Percentage (%)
0-6	Mild	91	91
7-12	Moderate	09	09
13-18	Severe	00	00

Table: showing frequency and level of the risk of cervical cancer among women of reproductive age group

The above table showing level of risk of the cervical cancer among women of reproductive age group in district Mohali, Punjab. 91% women have mild risk of developing cervical cancer, 09% of women are showing moderate risk of cervical cancer and no women is under the severe risk of developing cervical cancer.

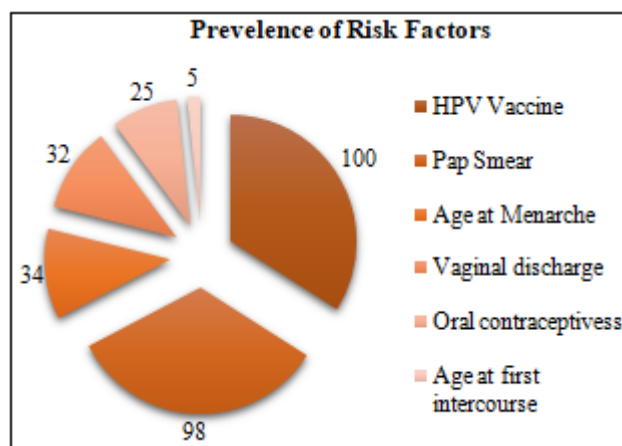


Figure: Showing prevalence rate of various risk factors of cervical cancer among women of reproductive age group

Figure 7 showing the highest prevalence rate is of HPV vaccine(100%) followed by pap smear test(98%), age at menarche and excessive vaginal discharge having 34% and 32% rate respectively. oral contraceptive showing 25% and age at first intercourse showing 5% of prevalence rate.

Table: Association of Prevalence of Risk Factors with Various Socio-Demographic Variables (Chi-Square Test), N=100

Sociodemographic Variables	Degree of Freedom	Calculated Value (Chi-Square)	Table Value	Result
1. Age (in completed years) 15-23 24-32 33-41 42-50	06	2.92	12.59	Not significant
2. Academic Qualification Illiterate(can't read and write) No formal education but can read and write Upto Primary Upto Matric More than senior secondary	08	7.55	15.51	Not significant
3. Occupation Homemaker Self-employed Private employed Government employed	04	3.08	9.49	Not significant
4. Religion				

Hindu Sikh Muslim Christian Any other, specify	04	2.35	9.49	Not significant
5. Monthly Income (in Rs.) ≤10,000 10,001-20,000 20,001-30,000 30,001	06	2.34	12.59	Not significant

Table: depicts the association of prevalence of the risk factors with various socio-demographic variables.

4. Conclusion

It has been concluded from the findings of the study that highest prevalence is of risk factor women who were never gone for HPV vaccine and pap-smear test, not using barrier contraceptive, using oral contraceptive. Early and late marriage, age at first intercourse, age at first conception showing low prevalence rate.

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