

Kenowlege and practice of Iranian women toward cervical cancer

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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 desinged 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 interviwed. 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: educationl 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.

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