

# Assess the Knowledge Regarding Pap Smear Among Women

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## ABSTRACT

**Background:** Cervical cancer screening is an essential part of women's routine health care. The Pap smear test is the way to detect abnormal cervical cells including precancerous cervical lesions as well as early stage cervical cancer.

**Objectives:** 1.To assess the level of knowledge regarding Pap smear among women. 2. To find out the association between level of knowledge regarding Pap smear among women with their selected socio demographic variables.

**Methodology:** Cross sectional descriptive research design was used to conduct research study. 30 women residing at Kamakshi Nagar in Nellore were selected by using non probability convenience sampling technique.

**Result:** The result reveals that, out of 30 women, 17 (57%) had in adequate knowledge, 10 (33%) had moderately adequate knowledge and only 3(10%) had adequate knowledge regarding pap smear.

**Conclusion:** The study concluded that majority of women had inadequate knowledge on pap smear test .hence there is a need to conduct awareness programme in community to raise the level of awareness on pap smear test.

**Keywords :** Knowledge, Pap smear, Women.

## I. INTRODUCTION

Cervical cancer is the fifth most common cancer in humans, the fourth most common cancer in women worldwide. It is the most common cancer related deaths among women in the developing countries. Based on the World Health Organization (WHO) stated that, 22% of female deaths are caused by malignant tumors, out of these 18% of them are due to cervical cancer. Five screening methods namely; naked eye visual inspection of the cervix with application of diluted acetic acid (VIA), examination with Lugol's Iodine (VILI) or with a magnifying device (VIAM), the Pap smear and Human Papilloma

Virus (HPV) testing with high-risk probe of the Hybrid Capture-2 assay (HC2) is used to detect the cervical cancer in precancerous stage. Several conventional methods have been proposed for the early diagnosis of cervical cancer and its secondary prevention, out of these Pap smear test is the most effective method for screening of cervical cancer.

Pap smear test is a simple and inexpensive diagnostic method and is therefore useful especially in areas with limited resources. The diagnostic utility of cervicovaginal cytology (Pap test) as a first line of investigation has assumed importance in screening of cervical cancer. Hence the investigator selected the

present study to identify the level of knowledge among women.

**STATEMENT PROBLEM**

A Study to Assess the Knowledge Regarding Pap smear among Women in Kamakshi Nagar At Nellore.

**OBJECTIVES**

- To assess the level of knowledge regarding pap smear among women
- To find out the association between level of knowledge regarding pap smear among women with their selected socio demographic variables

**II. METHODS AND MATERIAL**

A quantitative research approach and Cross sectional descriptive research design was used to assess the knowledge regarding Pap smear among Women in Kamakshi Nagar at Nellore. The sample includes all women who are residing in Kamakshi Nagar. 30 women were selected by using non probability convenience sampling technique.

**Criteria for Sample Selection**

**Inclusion criteria**

- The women in NTR Nagar, Nellore
- Who are willing to participate
- Who are available at the time of data collection
- Who knows Telugu or English.

**Exclusion criteria:** Women who are

- Having acute illness
- Not willing to participate in the study

**DESCRIPTION OF THE TOOL:**

The tool consists of 2 parts.

**PART-I:** It deals with the socio demographic variables like age, educational qualification, occupation, income per month, religion, marital status, type of family.

**PART-II :** It deals with structured questionnaire comprise 26 questions based on pap smear

**Score interpretation:** Score of one and zero were awarded respectively to each correct and wrong answer.

Level of knowledge	Percentage
Inadequate knowledge	<50%
Moderately adequate knowledge	51-70%
Adequate knowledge	>71%

Content validity was obtained from nursing academic researchers and reliability of the tool was tested by using test and retest method .The reliability coefficients for all the tool was 0.8.

**DATA COLLECTION PROCEDURE:**

Prior formal permission was obtained from the institutional ethical committee, Narayana Medical College Hospital, Nellore and permission obtained from the village sarpanch. The samples were informed by the investigator about the purpose of the study and the written consent was obtained. The data collection was carried out 2 weeks. Data was collected by using socio demographic variables and a structured questionnaire was used to measure the level of knowledge regarding Pap smear. It took 10-15 minutes to collect the data from each participant. The data was analyzed and tabulated by using descriptive and inferential statistics based on objectives of the study.

**DATA ANALYSIS**

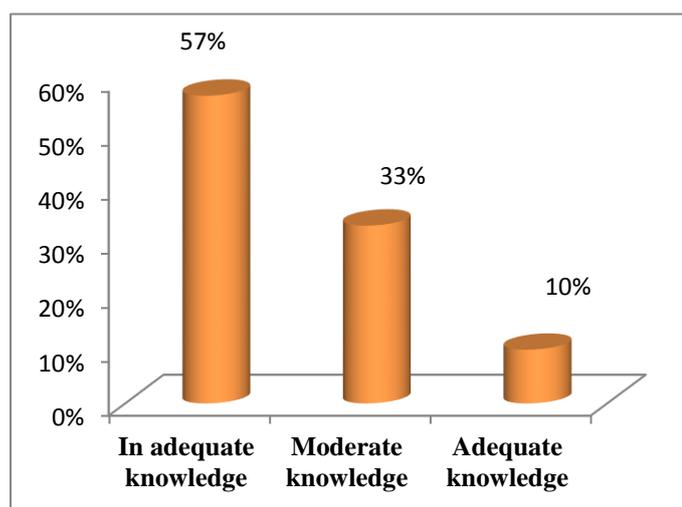
The data analyses were performed using IBM Statistical package for social sciences (SPSS) version 20.0. Descriptive and inferential statistics were used. Socio Demographic variables are analyzed in terms of frequencies and percentages. Knowledge score about the pap smear was presented using , Mean and standard deviation. Chi square test used to determine the association between the socio demographic variables and level of knowledge among the study group.

### III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

#### Section-I: Frequency and percentage distribution of socio demographic variables.

Majority of patients In relation to age 13 (43.3%) women are between 30-40 years, In context to education 15(50%) of women had intermediate, In view to occupation 25 (83.3%) are house wives, In context to income per month 18 (60%) are in between 7001-9000 rupees, In relation to religion 23 (76.6%) are Hindu religion, In context to marital status 30(100%) women are married, in context to type of family 15 (50%) are belongs to joint family.

#### Section-II: Percentage distribution of level of knowledge regarding Pap smear among women



#### Section-III: Mean and standard deviation of knowledge regarding Pap smear among women

Criteria	Mean	Standard deviation
Level of knowledge	11.5	2.03

#### Section-IV : Association between the level of knowledge and socio demographic variables of women.

The Study finding reveals that there is an association between the level of knowledge regarding Pap smear test with socio and socio demographic variables like,

education qualification and remaining variables has shown non significant association.

**Recommendations for Further Research:** On the basis of finding of the study the following recommendations are be suggested in the future research:

- A similar study can be conducted at different setting in different population
- Structured teaching programmes can be conducted to increase the awareness of women.

### IV.CONCLUSION

The study concluded that, majority of the women are having inadequate knowledge about the Pap smear. Hence there is a need to conduct awareness programmes in community to improve knowledge level among public. It helps to decreases the morbidity and mortality associated with late presentation of disease.

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