

KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDE AND PRACTICE AMONG MIDWIVES AND COMMUNITY NURSES ON CERVICAL CANCER IN THE STATE OF KEDAH IN 1997

PENGETAHUAN, SIKAP DAN AMALAN TENTANG KANSER SERVIKS DIKALANGAN BIDAN, JURURAWAT DESA DAN JURURAWAT MASYARAKAT DI NEGERI KEDAH, 1997

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ABSTRACT

A cross sectional study was conducted on the knowledge, attitude and practice among midwives and community nurses on cervical cancer in the health service in the state of Kedah in January 1997. A universal sampling method was used and a total of 281 of people responded to the study. Data was collected by using self administered questionnaires. The result of this study showed that a satisfactory dissemination of information on cervical cancer acquired from radio, tv, newspaper and staff nurses were associated with high level of knowledge on cervical cancer. A clear job description in cervical cancer prevention programmes and the age of respondents were associated with good attitude towards the programmes. There were 208 respondents (74.0%) who had Pap smear done. Among the reasons for not doing Pap smear were not married (25.8%), embarrassed (25.8%), did not have any symptoms (19.4%) and worried about the possible Pap smear result (14.5%). Those who were married, 79.0% of them had Pap smear done. There was a weak ($r = 0.250$) but significant correlation between the score of knowledge and attitude towards cervical cancer preventive programmes ($p < 0.001$). Duration of working with the Ministry of Health and satisfactory dissemination of information acquired from staff nurses were the predicting factor for carrying out Pap smear. In conclusion, the above findings may be useful to increased the level of knowledge and to change attitude and practice towards cervical cancer prevention programmes among midwives and community nurses in the state of Kedah.

ABSTRAK

Satu kajian keratan rentas mengenai pengetahuan, sikap dan amalan terhadap kanser serviks/ ujian Pap telah dilakukan ke atas bidan, jururawat desa dan jururawat masyarakat yang berkhidmat di perkhidmatan kesihatan Negeri Kedah pada 1997. Pensampelan universal digunakan di mana seramai 281 responden mengambil bahagian. Data dikumpul dengan menggunakan borang soal-selidik isi sendiri. Kajian ini mendapati bahawa penyebaran maklumat mengenai kanser serviks yang memuaskan dari radio, tv, akhbar dan jururawat terlatih berkaitan dengan tahap pengetahuan yang tinggi manakala keterangan yang jelas mengenai tugas dalam program pencegahan dan umur responden berkaitan dengan sikap yang baik terhadap program pencegahan kanser serviks. Seramai 208 responden (74.0%) telah menjalani ujian Pap. Di antara sebab-sebab tidak menjalani ujian Pap ialah belum berkahwin (25.8%), malu (25.8%), tidak ada tanda-tanda luar biasa (19.4%) dan takut untuk menyetujui keputusan ujian (14.5%). Ujian saringan Pap di kalangan responden yang berkahwin ialah 79.0%. Kajian ini mendapati bahawa terdapat korelasi yang bererti tetapi lemah ($r = 0.250$, $p < 0.001$) di antara skor pengetahuan mengenai kanser serviks dengan skor sikap terhadap program pencegahan kanser serviks. Faktor peramal bagi menjalani ujian Pap di kalangan responden ialah tempoh berkhidmat dengan Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia dan penyebaran maklumat yang memuaskan dari jururawat terlatih. Hasil kajian ini boleh digunakan untuk meningkatkan tahap pengetahuan, mengubah sikap dan amalan agar lebih berkesan terhadap program pencegahan kanser serviks.