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# WOMEN'S KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDE AND BEHAVIORS ABOUT USE OF EARLY DIAGNOSIS METHODS IN CERVIX CANCER

### Abstract:

Introduction

Cervical cancer is the second most common malignancy of women following breast cancer in the world. Overall 493.000 new cases are diagnosed and 274.000 women die of disease at each year. It is the only cancer having efficient screening program. Therefore the vast majority of the cases could be diagnosed and treated before invasive stage. Since the cervix is external genital organ, the carcinogenesis of cervical cancer is investigated in detail. The development of cancer takes a long duration, therefore the patients could be diagnosed at preinvasive stage and approximately all of these women could be treated succesively.

Aim: The aim of this study is to determine the knowledge and attitude of women about life style and some habituation risk factors for cancer diseases and their behaviour for screening methods and early diagnosis.

Material and Method: The study is descriptive. The sample of the study covers 95 women who be present Quran course between 1 February and 31 May 2014. The data were accumulated by the researchers using a face-to-face interview with the women, including questions on the socio-demographic characteristics of participants and their knowledge, attitude, and behaviors about the early diagnosis of the cervical cancer has been conducted. The data were analyzed with SPSS 20.0 software package. Numbers, percentages, mean and standard deviation were used. An approval was obtained from the ethical board of Selcuklu Medical School of Selcuk University. All participants were given information about the study, and written consents were obtained.

Results: The age of the participants was between 20 and 65 with a mean of  $36.46\pm9.54$  years. In this study, 71.6% of women has moderate economic situation. 87.4% of women were non-smokers and 12.6% were smokers. 13.7% of them have been informed about cervical cancer, 40% were aware of the health care provider will apply for the PAP smear and 31.6% have had pap-smear test. The prevention of cervical cancer were found to have sufficient knowledge 63.2% of women in about the HPV vaccine and 78.9% of women about the HPV.

Conclusion: As a conclusion, There was a relation between education and cancer risk, symptoms of cervical cancer, prevention and early diagnosis. Women who participant the survey haven't got enough knowledgeable about the symptoms of cancer disease and cancer early diagnosis

#### **Keywords:**

Cervical cancer, knowledge, attitude, behavior, early diagnosis, Pap smear

#### JEL Classification: 110