

A Study to assess the knowledge level on Gynecological Cancer among Women under the age of 60 Years at Selected Urban Area, Bangalore

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Abstract:

A study to assess the knowledge level on gynecological cancer among women under the age of 60 years at selected urban area in Bangalore. Incidence of gynecological cancer Cervical cancer: 569,847 new cases and 311,365 deaths worldwide in 2020 (Globocan 2020) Endometrial cancer: 417,394 new cases and 97,382 deaths worldwide in 2020. The main objective of the study was to assess the knowledge regarding gynecological cancer among women under the age of 60 and to find the association between the levels of knowledge regarding gynecological cancer with selected socio demographic variable. The study adopted a non experimental descriptive research design . For collecting data of structured questionnaire was prepared after reviewing research and non research material. The women under the age group of 60 years were the population of the study and the setting of study was urban community area, Bangalore. The sample sizes were 75 females which are selected by non probability convenient sampling technique. Data was collected by demographic Performa. After analysis of data it was found that majority(49.3%) of the females had moderate knowledge, mean deviation was 8.81 and standard deviation was 2.18, and there is no association between knowledge regarding gynecological cancer and demographic variable.

Keywords: Gynecological cancer, knowledge level, women, urban area.

Introduction:

Gynecological cancer, a leading cause of morbidity and mortality among women worldwide, poses a significant public health concern in India. Rural women, particularly those under 60 years, face heightened risks due to limited access to healthcare services, lack of awareness, and cultural barriers.

Gynecological cancers, including cervical, ovarian, uterine, and vaginal cancers, pose a significant threat to women's health worldwide. In India, these cancers account for 23% of all cancer-related deaths among women, with approximately 122,844 new cases diagnosed annually. Despite advancements in cancer diagnosis and treatment, lack of awareness and inadequate knowledge about risk factors, symptoms, and preventive measures contribute significantly to delayed diagnosis and poor health outcomes.

The urban population, particularly in cities like Bangalore, faces unique challenges, including rapid urbanization, changing lifestyles, and inadequate access to healthcare services. Women under 60 years are vulnerable to gynecological cancers, emphasizing the need for enhanced awareness and knowledge.

The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that approximately 80% of cervical cancer cases, a common type of gynecological cancer, occur in developing countries. In India, cervical cancer accounts for 71% of all gynecological cancer cases, with a significant proportion diagnosed at advanced stages.

Objectives

1. To assess the knowledge of women under 60 years regarding gynecological cancer.
2. To explore the association between knowledge levels and selected socio-demographic variables.

Hypothesis

H0: The knowledge level regarding gynecological cancer is not associated with demographic variables (age, education, occupation, income) among women under the age of 60 years in the selected urban area.

H1: The knowledge level regarding gynecological cancer is significantly associated with demographic variables (age, education, occupation, income) among women under the age of 60 years in the selected urban area.

Assumption:

Women under the age group of 60 years may have some knowledge regarding gynecological

Research Design

Non experimental research design was adopted to assess the knowledge regarding gynecological cancer among women under 60 years of age.

Setting

The study was conducted in Yelachenahalli, Urban community area, Bangalore.

Sample

Females aged between 20-60 years of age group, residing in Yelachenahalli Urban community area, Bangalore.

Sample Size

The sample size of the study consists of 75 females, residing in Yelachenahalli, Urban community, Bangalore.

Variables:

Research variable: knowledge regarding gynecological cancer among women under the age group of 60 years.

Demographic variable: In this study it refers to age , education, marital status, family size and family income

Sampling technique:

Non probability- conveniences technique is adopted to select the sample.

Sampling criteria:

Inclusion criteria:

1. Females aged 18-59 years.
2. Resident of selected urban Bangalore areas.
3. Willingness to participate.

Exclusion criteria:

1. Previous gynecological cancer diagnosis.
2. Severe mental/physical disability.
3. Inability to communicate effectively.

Data collection tool:

The data was collected through self administered structured questionnaire it was prepared to assess the knowledge regarding gynecological cancer for women under the age group of 60 years .In selected urban area Bangalore.

Result:

Assessment of level of knowledge regarding gynecological cancer among Women under the age of 60 years

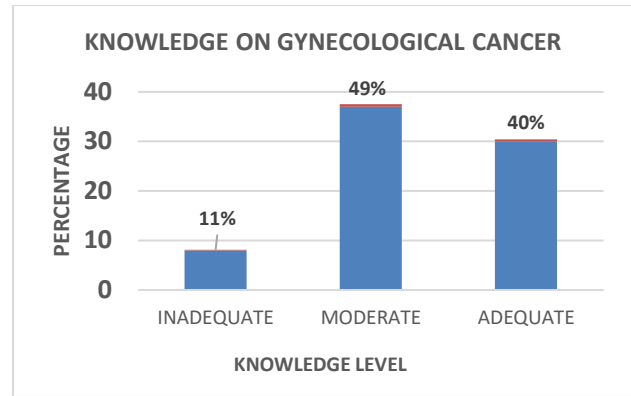


Table 2: Showing Knowledge Score Regarding Gynecological Cancer among Women under the Age of 60 Years

Sl no	Knowledge	Frequency	Percentage
1	Inadequate	8	10.6%
2	Moderate	37	49.3%
3	Adequate	30	40%
		75	100

The above table shows that majority of the women have Moderate level of knowledge regarding gynecological cancer

Table 3: Mean, standard deviation, values of knowledge, scores regarding gynecological cancer among women under 60 years

Sl no	Category	Maximum score	Mean	Standard deviation
1	Level of knowledge	20	8.18	2.81

The above table reveals the mean, SD and improvement of knowledge score on gynecological cancer. With regards to knowledge the pretest mean was 8.18 and standard deviation was 2.81.

Section 3 : Association between knowledge regarding gynecological cancer among women under the age of 60 years with their selected demographic variable.

The results show that the knowledge is not associated with the demographic variables

Sl no	Demographic variables	Category	Respondents		Chi-square value
			8>	</=8	
1	Age	a)20-30	12	6	8.11 NS
		b)30-40	10	9	
		c)40-50	9	14	
		d)50-60	3	12	
2	Marital status	a) Married	32	39	0.196 NS
		b) Unmarried	2	2	
3	Family type	a) Nuclear	13	17	0.06 NS
		b)Joint	21	24	
4	Family income	a)20-40k	11	7	0.07 NS
		b)50-70k	4	3	
		c)80-11k	9	21	
		d)More than 11k	10	10	
5	Educational level	a)Primary	25	8	6.57 NS
		b)Secondary	11	15	
		c)Degree	19	10	
		d)Uneducated	22	16	

The result of Chi-square analysis shows the outcome of association between knowledge regarding gynecological cancer with selected demographic variable. The Chi-square test was carried out to determine the association of knowledge regarding gynecological cancer with selected demographic variable such as age , marital status , income , family size, history of cancer.

Recommendation:

The same study can be conducted in different cities to compare the result. The same study can be repeated on a large sample size so as to generalize the result. The short term training programmes and its effectiveness can be analyzed through pre-test and post-test method similar kind of

study can be conducted among different population.

Conclusion

The study revealed a significant gap in knowledge regarding gynecological cancers among women under 60 years in the selected urban area of Bangalore. The findings highlight the need for targeted interventions

to enhance awareness and education. By addressing the knowledge gap and promoting awareness, this study contributes to the global effort to reduce the burden of gynecological cancers and improve health outcomes for women

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