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### **Assessment of knowledge, awareness and attitude about cervical cancer and its screening among women in Makkah, Saudi Arabia**

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**Background:** Cervical cancer is considered the 4th most common cancer of women worldwide. It is the 10th most common cancer in Saudi women. Due to lack of well-organized screening program in KSA most cases of cervical cancer presented to health care services in late stage of disease.

**Aim:** To assess the level of knowledge, awareness and attitude about cervical cancer and if the women had undergone screening for cervical cancer or not.

**Subjects & Methods:** A questionnaire based cross-sectional study was conducted among the women attending the outpatient clinics in 3 health care facilities chosen randomly from all health care facilities in Makkah. A sample size of 210 was calculated. Data was analyzed using SPSS Version 20.

**Results:** Majority of the women have good knowledge about cervical cancer (12.9% [27/210]) taking their knowledge mainly from the internet not from doctors. Only (13.8% [29/210]) are aware about screening. Only 21.4% women had undergone screening while 79.5% have positive attitude towards screening. Although 1.9 % took the vaccine, 90% have positive attitude towards vaccination.

**Conclusions:** Although majority of women had poor knowledge, but still many had positive attitude towards screening and vaccination. Mass media and health care teams should be used to educate women.

#### **Biography**

Hibah Saleh Alharbi is a 6th year medical student from Umm al-Qura University at Makkah, Saudi Arabia. She has an interest in health education and increase society awareness about the diseases and how to prevent it. She also has a lot of interest in research work activity field.

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