

A Study: To check the knowledge and awareness of cervical cancer, its major cause, and its preventive measures among the females of age group 18years to 65years.

Dissertation Submitted to



The IIHMR University, Jaipur

for the partial fulfilment for the award of the degree of

Master of Business Administration (MBA)

in

Hospital and Health Management

by

Dr. Priyanka Shashikant Chalwad

Under the Supervision and Guidance of

Dr. Sandesh Kumar Sharma

Assistant Professor

2023

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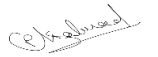
Dr. Sandesh Kumar Sharma

Assistant Professor

2023

DECLARATION BY STUDENT

I hereby declare that this dissertation titled “A Study: To check the knowledge and awareness of cervical cancer, its major cause, and its preventive measures among the females of age group 18years to 65years.” is the bonafide record of my original research work. I declare that it has not been submitted to any other university or institution for the award of any degree or diploma. Information derived from the published or unpublished work of others has been duly acknowledged in the text.



(Signature)

Name of Student- Dr. Priyanka S. Chalwad

Date- 07/06/2023

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Completion Certification

This is to certify that **Priyanka S Chalwad** in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the award of the degree of MBA (Hospital and Health Management) from the IIHMR University, Jaipur has successfully completed her internship at **Hemogenomics Pvt Ltd** during March 1st - May 31st, 2023.

On Behalf of Hemogenomics Pvt Ltd.


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CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that dissertation titled “A Study: To check the knowledge and awareness of cervical cancer, its major cause, and its preventive measures among the females of age group 18years to 65years” is a record of the research work undertaken by Dr. Priyanka S. Chalwad in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the award of the degree of MBA (Hospital and Health Management) from the IIHMR University, Jaipur under my guidance and supervision and his/her approach to the research study has been sincere, scientific, and analytical.

Faculty Guide- Dr. Sandesh Kumar
Sharma

IIHMR University, Jaipur

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Date-07/07/2023

ABSTRACT

INTRODUCTION:

Cervical cancer awareness in India is an important public health issue due to the country's high burden of the disease. In India Cervical cancer is the second most common cancer among women. According to the 2020 data, there were an estimated 97,000 new cases of cervical cancer and 60,000 deaths from the disease in India. Almost all cases of cervical cancer are caused by persistent infection with high-risk types of the human papillomavirus (HPV). HPV vaccination can help prevent HPV infection and the subsequent development of cervical cancer.

RESEARCH QUESTION:

What is the awareness level of cervical cancer, its main cause, and its preventive measures amongst the women between age group 18yr-65yr.

OBJECTIVES:

- 1)To assess the knowledge and awareness of cervical cancer and its main cause among the women between age group 18yrs to 65yrs.
- 2)To determine the knowledge and acceptance of preventive measures of cervical cancer among the women of age group 18yrs-65yrs

MATERIAL AND METHODS:

- STUDY DESIGN: Cross sectional study
- STUDY SETTING: Maharashtra & Karnataka
- STUDY POPULATION
 - Inclusion criteria: Females between the age group of 18yrs to 65yrs
 - Exclusion criteria: Females below the age of 18yrs and above the age of 65yrs
- Study tools: questionnaire
- DURATION OF STUDY: 01/03/2023 to 01/06/2023
- SAMPLE SIZE: 109
- SAMPLING TECHNIQUE: Convenience sampling

- DATA COLLECTION PROCEDURE: Online Google form
- OPERATIONAL DEFINITIONS: Cervical cancer is the cancer of cervix, and it can largely be prevented.

RESULTS:

Analysis shows that there is lack of knowledge and awareness of cervical cancer and its risk. 66% of the respondents are aware out of 109 respondents. Only 5% respondents actually did cervical cancer screening. Out of 109 respondents, females from the age group 26-33 years are more aware as compared to other age groups.

CONCLUSION:

This study revealed the limited knowledge about the cervical cancer risks, its cause, and its preventive measures among the women between age group 18-65years. Due to lack of awareness so many females are not undergoing cervical cancer screening which can reduce their chances of caught with the cervical cancer in future. We should spread awareness through campaigns, programmes handled by government and should work on this topic so that females can go themselves for cervical cancer screening and start taking care of themselves.

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ABBREVIATIONS

CC	Cervical Cancer
HPV	Human Papilloma Virus
VIA	Visual Inspection with Acetic Acid
DNA	Deoxyribonucleic Acid

CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

Cervical cancer awareness in India is an important public health issue due to the high burden of the disease in the country. In India Cervical cancer is the second most common cancer among women. According to the 2020 data, there were an estimated 97,000 new cases of cervical cancer and 60,000 deaths from the disease in India. Almost all cases of cervical cancer are caused by persistent infection with high-risk types of the human papillomavirus (HPV). HPV vaccination can help prevent HPV infection and subsequent development of cervical cancer.

Regular cervical cancer screening is crucial for early detection and treatment. In India, the two main screening methods are visual inspection with acetic acid (VIA) and HPV DNA testing. VIA involves applying vinegar to the cervix to identify precancerous changes, while HPV DNA testing detects the presence of high-risk HPV types. Despite the availability of screening methods, the screening rates for cervical cancer in India are still relatively low, especially in rural areas. This is primarily due to a lack of awareness, limited access to healthcare facilities, and cultural barriers. Various governmental and non-governmental organizations are working to raise awareness about cervical cancer in India. These programs aim to educate women about the importance of regular screening, HPV vaccination, and early detection of symptoms.

The Indian government has initiated HPV vaccination programs in selected states to prevent cervical cancer. The vaccination is recommended for girls between the ages of 9 and 14 to provide protection before exposure to the virus.

Treatment options for cervical cancer in India include surgery, radiation therapy, and chemotherapy. The availability and accessibility of these treatments may vary across different regions of the country. Efforts to improve cervical cancer awareness, screening rates, and access to vaccination and treatment are ongoing in India. It is important for women to stay informed, undergo regular screenings, and seek appropriate healthcare to prevent and detect cervical cancer at an early stage.

RESEARCH QUESTION:

What is the awareness level of cervical cancer, its main cause, and its preventive measures amongst the women between age group 18yr-65yr?

OBJECTIVES:

- 1)To assess the knowledge and awareness of cervical cancer and its main cause among the women between age group 18yrs to 65yrs.
- 2)To determine the knowledge and acceptance of preventive measures of cervical cancer among the women of age group 18yrs-65yrs

CHAPTER 2: REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Author	Study Design	Year of study	Sample size	Learnings
Mohamedraed Elshami ^{1,2*†}	Cross-sectional study	2021	7223	Awareness among the Palestinian women of CC risk factors was low. Educational programmes will help to spread awareness.
K. VORA ^{1,2} , L. MCQUATTERS ³ , S. SAIYED ¹ , P. GUPTA ¹	Systemic review	2020		Low level of knowledge and awareness about cervical cancer and its screening in developing countries. India need to develop efficient health system to prevent this problem.
Anand Narain Srivastava ¹ , Jata Shankar Misra ¹ , Shruti Srivastava ² , Bhudav C. Das ³ & Shilpi Gupta	Systemic Review	2018		In rural areas of India due to illiteracy & ignorance the situation is not good about cervical cancer awareness & screening. Lack of knowledge of risk factors & screening techniques.
Amos D. Mwaka M.Med, [*] Christopher G. Orach PhD, [†] Edward M. Were MSc, [‡] Georgios Lyratzopoulos PhD, [§] Henry Wabinga MD [¶] and Martin Roland MD, FRCP ^{**}	Cross-sectional study	2015	448	Most of the respondents have knowledge about cervical cancer & its risk factors in Northern Uganda

Harsha Kumar HN, Shubham Tanya	Cross- sectional study	2014	83	Most women lacked basic knowledge of cervical cancer & screening. It is necessary to learn about doctors' practises and see whether they are educating their patients and making screening recommendations.
Showket Hussain1 , Vilas Nasare1 , Malasha Kumari2 , Shashi Sharma3 , Mohammad Aijaz Khan4 *, Bhudev C. Das5 , Mausumi Bharadwaj1 *	Cross- sectional study	2014	2500	In north Indian region of India, there is a very low level of knowledge about cervical cancer and HPV among school and college students as well as among their parents. To increase public awareness of cervical cancer prevention, better health education will be required.
JansiRani Siddharthar1 , Bhuvaneshwari Rajkumar2 , Kuberan Deivasigamani3	Cross- sectional study	2014	2000	Due to lack of awareness females are suffering from cervical cancer which is completely preventable. Need to spread the awareness about preventive measures like screening techniques & HPV vaccination
Singh M, Ranjan R1 , Das B, Gupta K	Cross- sectional study	2014	450	Need provide proper education strategies for

				spreading awareness. Healthcare providers should more focus on educating & convincing patients for undergoing cervical cancer screening.
Sreejata Raychaudhuri*, Sukanta Manda	Cross-sectional study	2012	Rural- 133 Urban- 83	Large number of risk factors of cervical cancer present in both areas but rural areas have more as compare to urban areas The study must followed by extensive initiatives to refocus awareness campaigns, particularly in rural regions.
V Shah1 , S Vyas2 , A Singh3 , and M Shrivastava3	Cross-sectional study	2012	100	Knowledge and awareness of cervical cancer and its screening is very limited in nurses. If we educate nurses about this, they can make people aware on mass level.
Teresa Joy1 , Brijesh Sathian2 , Chacchu Bhattarai1 , Jenny Chacko1	Cross-sectional study	2011	1268	The educated youth in India, Nepal, and Sri Lanka, is urgently needed targeted strategy to prevent cervical cancer Prevention initiatives should concentrate on raising societal

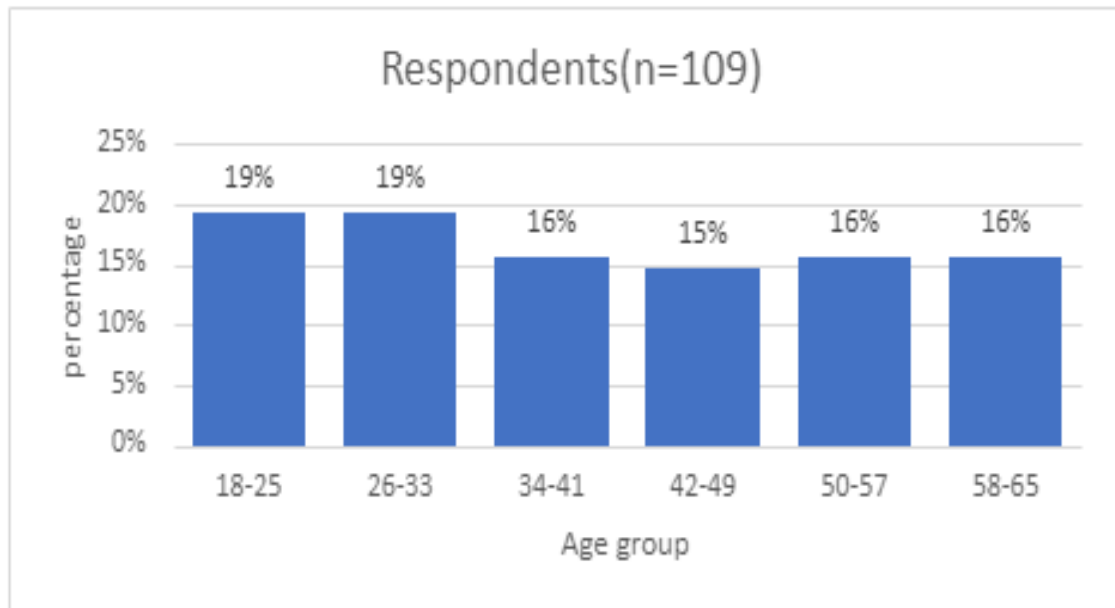
				awareness and implementing education	
A Saha ¹ , A Nag Chaudhury ² , P Bhowmik ¹ , R Chatterjee ^{2*}	Cross- sectional	2010	630	Lack of knowledge about cervical cancer and screening test is found out. HPV is a etiologic cause for cervical cancer is known by very less educated women.	

CHAPTER 3: METHODOLOGY

This is a cross-sectional study. This study we have conducted in between 1st March 2023 to 1st June 2023. Total 109 females from the age group 18-65years have participated in this study. Online questionnaire in English language we have provided which includes 7 questions. It is considered as a quantitative study & all questions are of 'Yes', 'No' type. After data collection it is analysed in Microsoft excel.

- Study design: Descriptive Cross-sectional study
- Study Type: Quantitative study
- Study setting: Maharashtra & Karnataka
- Study population
 - Inclusion criteria: Females between the age group of 18yrs to 65yrs
 - Exclusion criteria: Females below the age of 18yrs and above the age of 65yrs
- Duration of study: 01/03/2023 to 01/06/2023
- Sample size: 109
- Sampling technique: Convenience sampling
- Study tools: questionnaire including 7 questions.
- Data collection procedure: Online Google form
- Data type: Primary data
- Data analysis: Microsoft excel 365.

CHAPTER 4: RESULTS

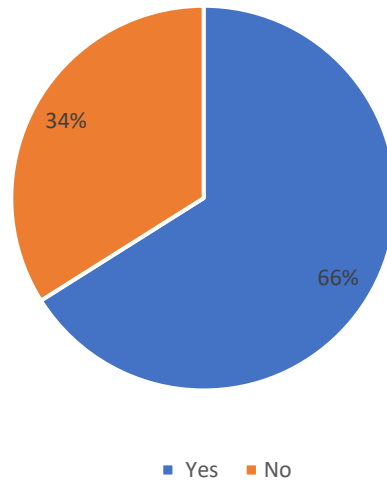


Graph 4 1

Interpretation-

Total 109 female respondents between the age group 18-65years answered this questionnaire. Out of these 109 respondents 19% are between the age group of 18-25years, and same percentage is of age group 26-33years. 15%-16% respondents were from others age groups. Almost all the age groups have nearly equal number of respondents & therefore this analysis can be considered.

1. Are you aware about the risk of cervical cancer in women between 30-65 years?

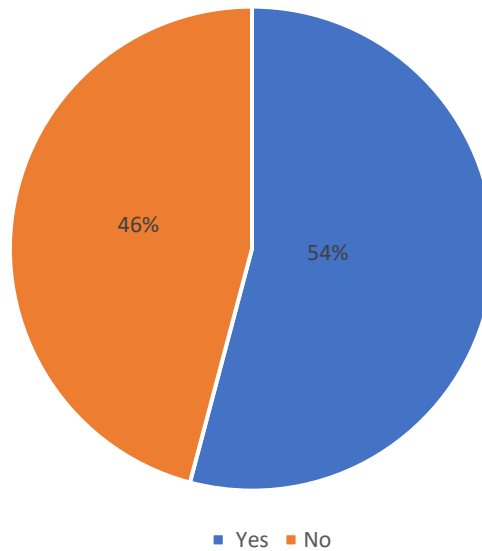


Graph 4 2 Awareness percentage

Interpretation-

According to the data we got 66% respondents are aware of the risk of cervical cancer in women between 30-65 years and 34% are not aware about this information.

2. Do you know cervical cancer is preventable if you go for early screening?

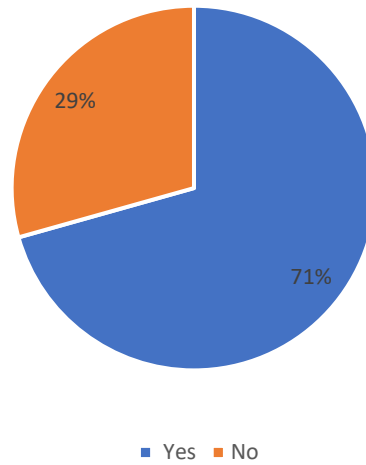


Graph 4 3 Overall percentage of awareness

Interpretation-

Out of 109 respondents 54% respondents know that cervical cancer is preventable if they go for early cervical screening and others are responded no for this question.

3. If you know that cervical cancer is asymptomatic in early stages, will you go for early cervical cancer screening?

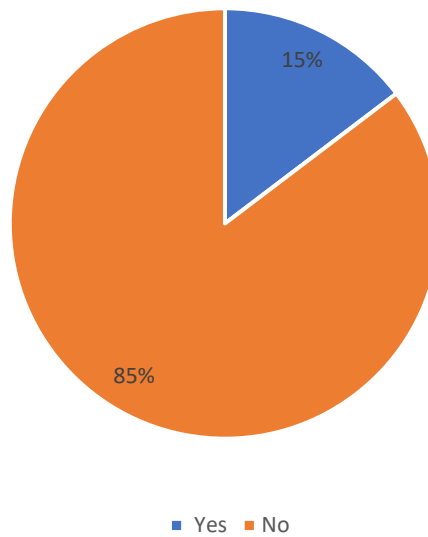


Graph 4 4 Overall percentage of awareness

Interpretation-

Most of the respondents are agreed to go for cervical cancer screening when they came to know that in early stages cervical cancer is asymptomatic and 29% are still not want to go for screening.

4. Have you ever been screened for cervical cancer?

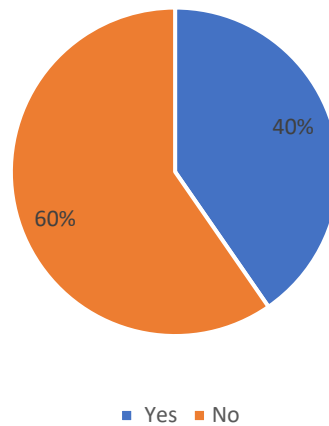


Graph 4 5 Overall percentage of awareness

Interpretation-

Out of 109 respondents 85% respondents have never screened for cervical cancer and only 15% have tested for this disease.

5. Do you know HPV is the major cause for developing cervical cancer?

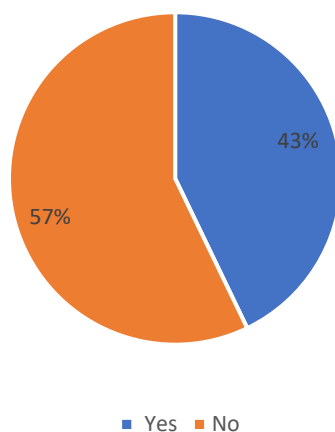


Graph 4 6 Overall percentage of awareness

Interpretation-

HPV is the major cause of developing cervical cancer and only 40% respondents are aware of this, and 60% respondents are not aware of this.

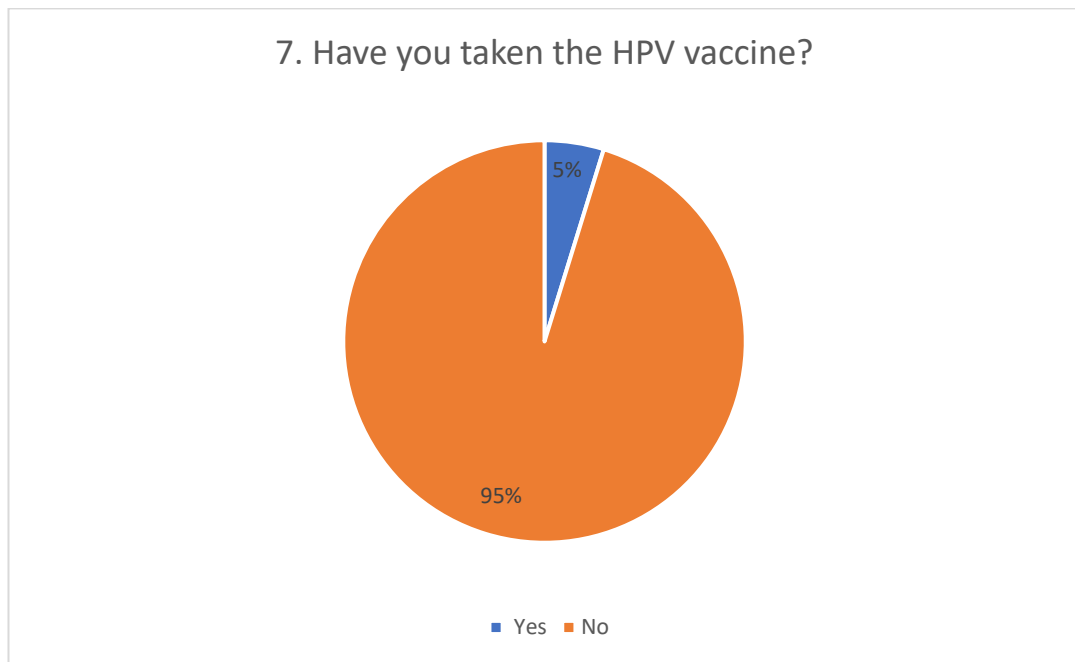
6. Are you aware about HPV vaccination?



Graph 4 7 Overall percentage of awareness

Interpretation-

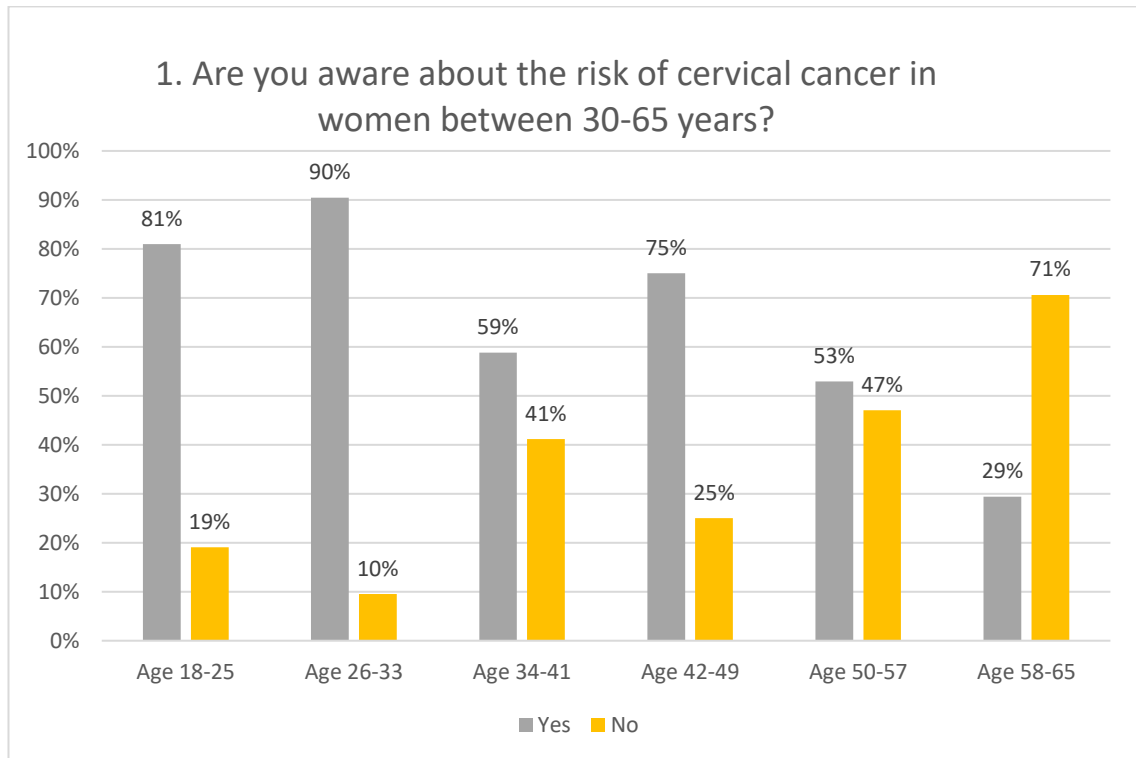
Only 43% of respondents are aware about HPV vaccination and 57% respondents are not aware of this vaccine.



Graph 4 8 Overall percentage of awareness

Interpretation-

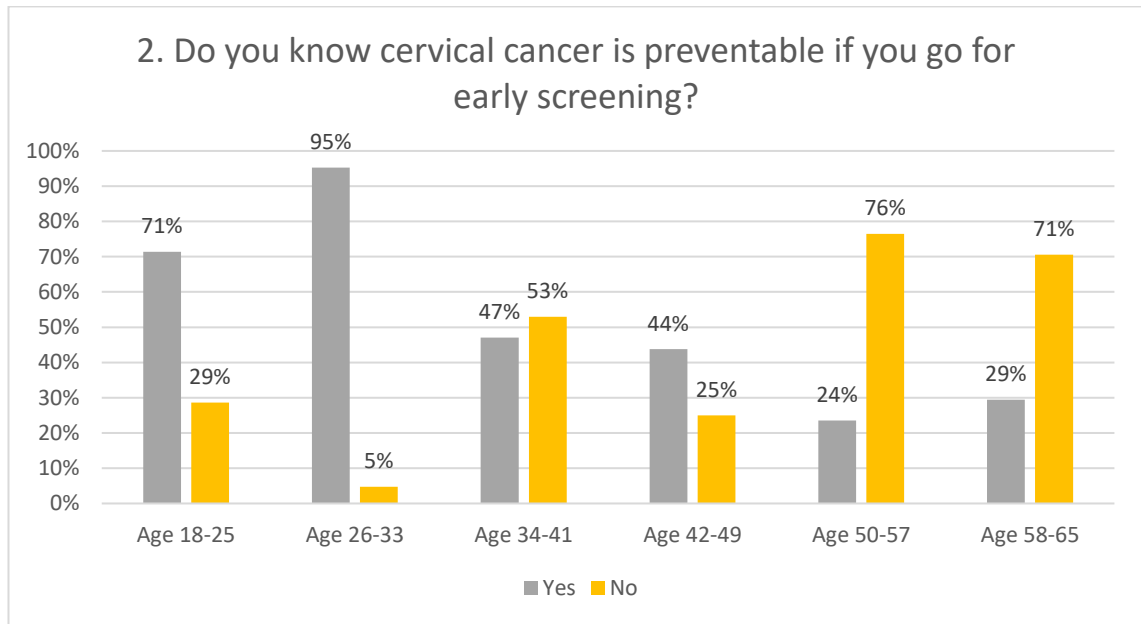
Out of 109 respondents only 5% of them took vaccine for HPV and other 95% respondents answered this question as no.



Graph 4 9 Age group wise awareness percentage

Interpretation-

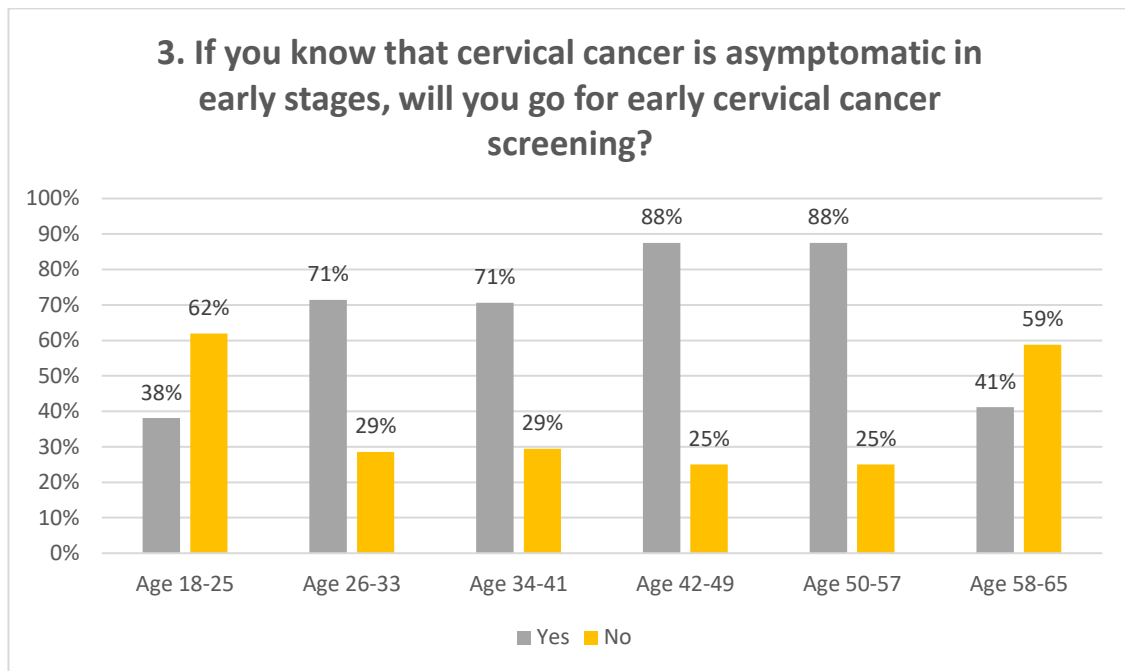
Out of all selected age groups we found that highest 90% females from age group 26-33years are aware about the risk of cervical cancer in the women between age group 30-65years. Even 81% of respondents between age group 18-25years are aware about this. In age group 58-65years we have found that only 29% respondents are aware about risk of cervical cancer.



Graph 4 10 Age group wise awareness percentage

Interpretation-

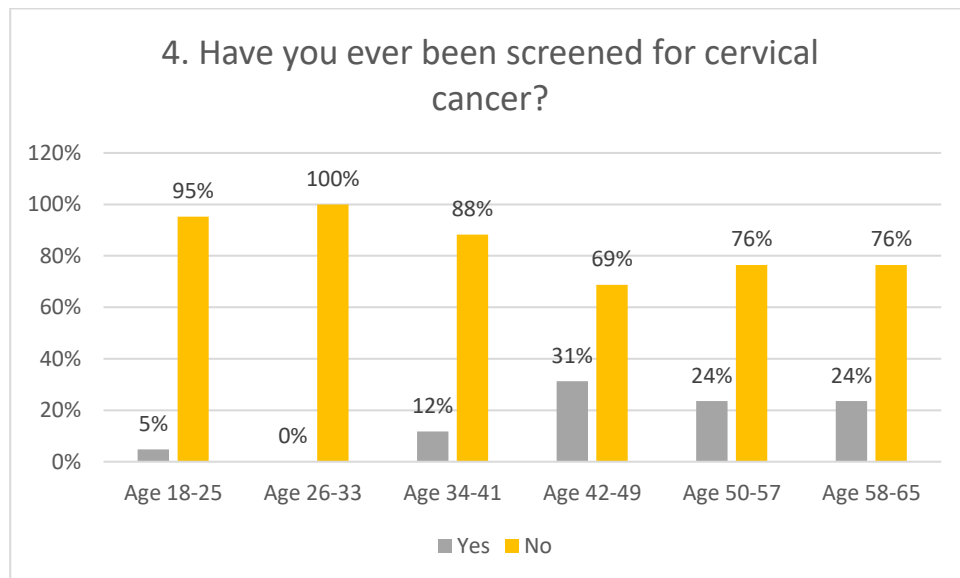
Maximum 95% respondents from the age group 26-33years are aware about the fact that cervical cancer is preventable if detected in early stage followed by 71% of the respondents from the age group 18-25years. Least only 24% of respondents are aware of this fact from the age group 50-57years.



Graph 4 11 Age group wise awareness percentage

Interpretation-

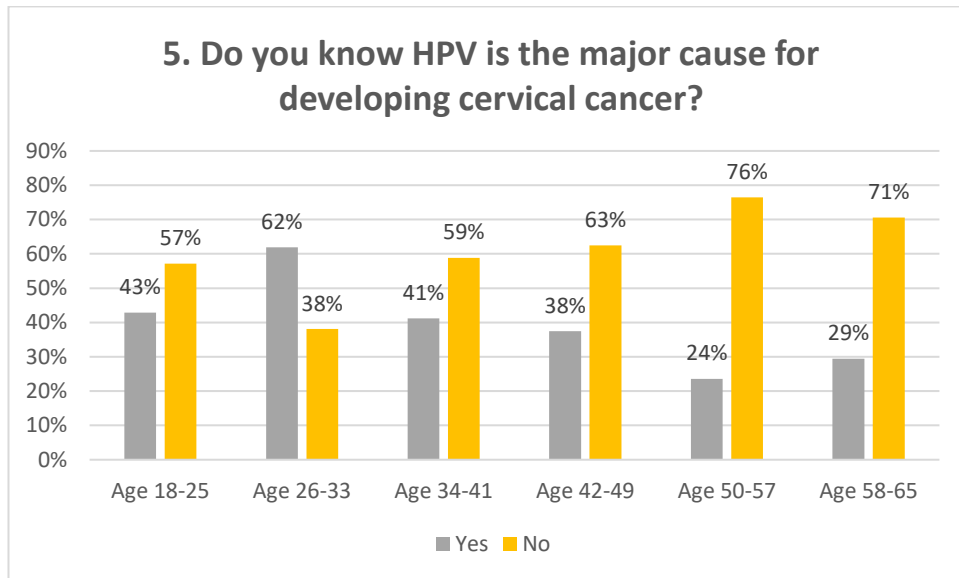
Nearly 80% of respondents between the age groups 26-33 years, 34-41 years, 42-49 years, 50-57 years are ready to go for screening after knowing that cervical cancer is asymptomatic in its early stages.



Graph 4 12 Age group wise awareness percentage

Interpretation-

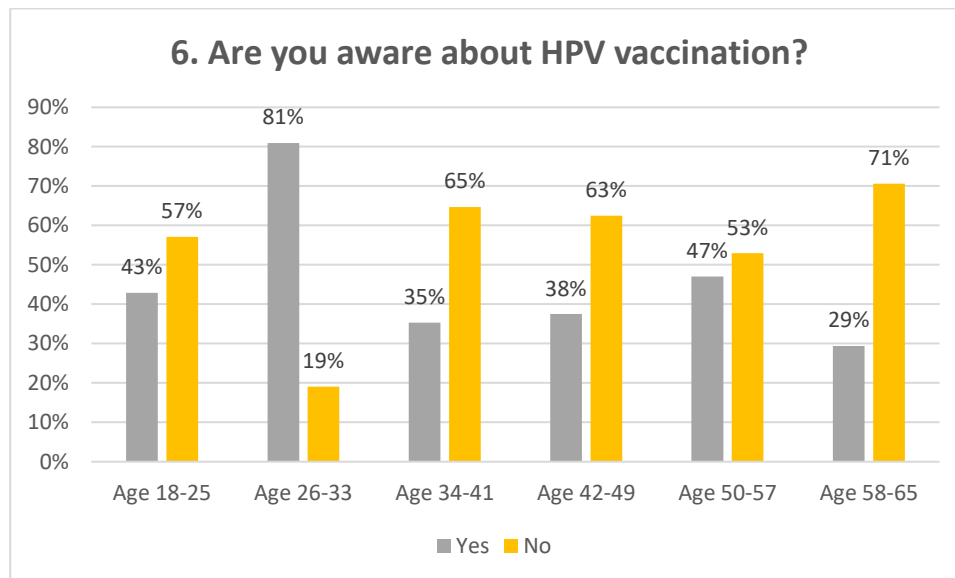
Maximum 31% of the respondents from the age group 42-49 years are ever screened for cervical cancer and very less respondents from the age group 18-25 years and 26-33 years have screened for cervical cancer till now.



Graph 4 13 Age group wise awareness percentage

Interpretation-

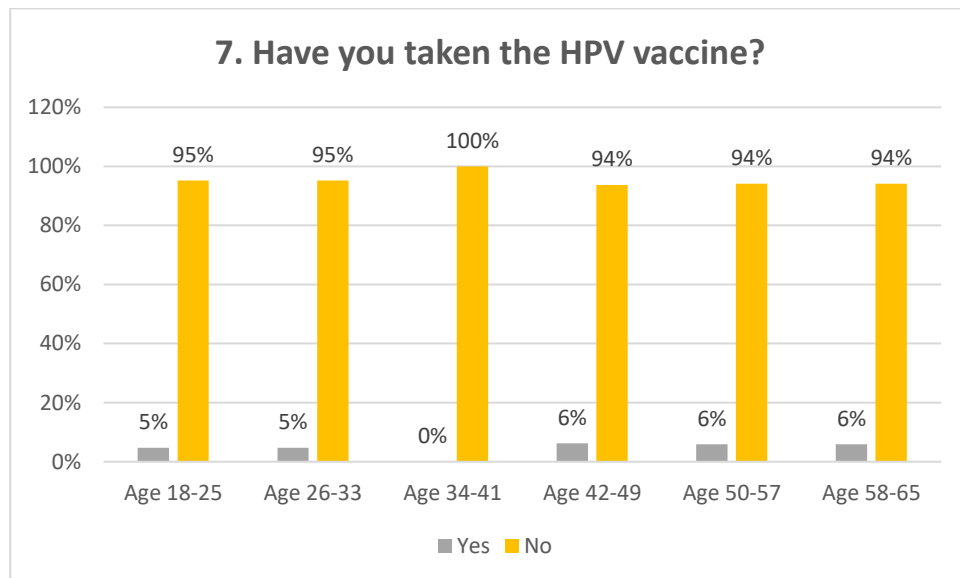
62% respondents from the age group 26-33 years, 43% from the age group 18-25 years, nearly 40% from the age group 34-42 years & 42-49 & nearly 27% from the age group 50-57 years & age group 58-65 years are not aware of the major cause of cervical cancer is HPV.



Graph 4 14 Age group wise awareness percentage

Interpretation-

Age group 26-33years are well known about HPV vaccine as 81% respondents answered yes for this question and least only 29% respondents from the age group 58-65years are aware about the HPV vaccination.



Graph 4 15 Age group wise awareness percentage

Interpretation-

None of the respondent from the age group 34-41years have took HPV vaccine & approximately 5% respondents from other age groups have took HPV vaccine.

CHAPTER 5: DISCUSSION

The study revealed a significant knowledge gap among the females regarding cervical cancer, its main cause, and preventive measures. These findings are nearly same with the previous studies. The results are showing the need of improving educational as well as health systems to make them knowledgeable about cervical cancer.

Previous studies which we were reviewed, and results of this study are quite similar i.e., lack of awareness about cervical cancer.

Many studies have registered similar knowledge gaps in risk factors & preventive measures of cervical cancer. This study further creates a strong evidence base and leads the need for required interventions.

This study has some limitations like small sample size, recall bias and a smaller number of questions which might not give a clear understanding of the results. In future, studies should overcome these limitations by choosing larger data sets, more diverse populations and more sociodemographic characteristics should be considered.

Awareness campaigns with the help of government, healthcare providers will improve this situation.

CHAPTER 6: CONCLUSION

This study revealed the limited knowledge about the cervical cancer risks, its cause, and its preventive measures among the women between age group 18-65years. Due to lack of awareness so many females are not undergoing cervical cancer screening which can reduce their chances of caught with the cervical cancer in future. We should spread awareness through campaigns, programmes handled by government and should work on this topic so that females can go themselves for cervical cancer screening and start taking care of themselves. As a way of increasing awareness among the younger age groups, vaccination & other preventive screening methods should be incorporated into the existing medical services. It is important to offer females emotional support, as they might be experiencing fear and anxiety on the results of the PAP smears should they take the test. National HPV vaccination coverage for female adolescents is highly recommended. By increasing public knowledge about cervical cancer, its causes, and the importance of early detection, we can empower females to take proactive measures for their health and potentially reduce the incidence and mortality rates associated with this disease.

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ANNEXURES

Questions Responses 159 Settings

Section 1 of 2

Questionnaire: Women's Health Check

Hello Graceful Lady,
I'm Priyanka Chalwad, a final-year MBA-Healthcare management student. I'm doing a small survey to see how well-informed and knowledgeable ladies between the ages of 18 and 65 are about cervical cancer, its primary cause, and the preventive actions that may be taken.
Kindly fill this survey to best of your knowledge.

Please select your age group

1. 18-25
2. 26-33
3. 34-41
4. 42-49
5. 50-57
6. 58-65

After section 1 Continue to next section

Section 2 of 2

Untitled section

Description (optional)

1. Are you aware about the risk of cervical cancer in women between 30-65 years?

☐ Yes

☐ No

2. Do you know cervical cancer is preventable if you go for early screening? *

☐ Yes

☐ No

3. If you know that cervical cancer is asymptomatic in early stages, will you go for early cervical cancer screening?

☐ Yes

☐ No

4. Have you ever been screened for cervical cancer? *

☐ Yes

☐ No

5. Do you know HPV is the major cause for developing cervical cancer? *

☐ Yes

☐ No

6. Are you aware about HPV vaccination? *

☐ Yes

☐ No

7. Have you taken the HPV vaccine? *

☐ Yes

☐ No

