

A Study To Assess The Awareness On Cancer Prevention Among The Caregivers Of Patients Admitted In Selected Wards Of Jubilee Mission Medical College And Research Institute, Thrissur.

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Abstract

The study was conducted to assess the awareness on cancer prevention among the caregivers of patients admitted to selected wards of JMMC&RI, Thrissur. Objectives: To assess the level of knowledge on cancer prevention among caregivers of patients admitted to selected wards and to determine the association between the level of knowledge on cancer prevention and the sociodemographic variables of caregivers of patients admitted to selected wards. Methodology: A non-experimental descriptive research design was used. For this study, 60 samples were selected by a convenient probability sampling method. The knowledge was assessed by using a self-structured questionnaire schedule. The study was conducted in selected wards (female and male surgical wards, male and female ortho and male and female medical wards) of JMMC and RI. The study population included caregivers of patients who are able to comprehend Malayalam, willing to participate, and above 18 years of age. Result: The results revealed that 36 (60%) of caregivers have adequate knowledge on the prevention of breast cancer, 17 (28.3%) of caregivers have adequate knowledge on the prevention of cancer in the reproductive system, 39 (65%) of caregivers have adequate knowledge on the prevention of skin cancer, 54 (90%) have adequate knowledge on the prevention of lung cancer, and 53 (88.3%) of caregivers have adequate knowledge on the prevention of gastrointestinal cancer. Statistical analysis revealed that there was no association ($p = 0.142$) between level of knowledge in cancer prevention and sociodemographic variables; the majority, 33 (55%), of the subjects were female and 27 (45%) were males. Regarding occupation, the majority of the subjects have jobs (51.6%), and 29 (48.3%) don't have any jobs. Most of the subjects 56(93.3%) were married. With regard to socioeconomic status, most of the subjects, 39(65%) were BPL and 21(35%) were APL. With regard to type of family, most of the subjects 50(83.3%) belong to joint families. 56 (93.3%) don't have any previous experience with screening tests to detect cancer, and 4 (6.6%) have previous experience regarding family history of cancer. 38 (63.3%) don't have any family history of cancer, 35 (58.3%) don't have any regular medication, and 51 (85%) don't make any lifestyle changes to prevent cancer.

Date of submission: 24-04-2024

Date of acceptance: 04-05-2024

I. Introduction

Cancer prevention is one of the most pressing challenges facing our current society. At least one-third of all cancer cases are preventable. Prevention offers the most cost-effective long-term strategy for the control of cancer. In order to lower the total number of people who have cancer, it's essential to continue to make public health

efforts to educate people on how to prevent cancer. So we are trying to do our part in cancer prevention by targeting specific groups that have a high risk of a specific type of cancer. The appropriate assessment of awareness regarding cancer among caretakers can help them feel more supported, confident, and develop a feeling of hope. In this study, we assess the awareness of cancer prevention among caregivers of patients admitted to various wards of JMMC and RI.

Problem Statement

A study to assess the awareness on cancer prevention among caregivers of patients admitted in JMMC and RI, Thrissur.

Objectives

To assess the level of knowledge on cancer prevention among caregivers of patients admitted in JMMC and RI.

To determine the association between the level of knowledge on cancer prevention and the sociodemographic variables of caregivers of patients admitted in selected wards.

Hypothesis

H: There is a significant association between knowledge on cancer prevention and sociodemographic variables of caregivers of patients admitted in selected wards of JMMC & RI.

II. Material And Methods

Quantitative approach was used.

Research Design

Non experimental descriptive research design is used to assess the awareness on cancer prevention among caregivers of patients admitted in selected wards of JMMC and RI

Research variables:

Level of knowledge in cancer prevention

Socio-demographic Variables:

Caregivers Age, education, gender, occupation, marital status, any other family members affected with cancer & personal history of cancer & socioeconomic status etc.

Setting of the study

The study was conducted in selected wards of JMMC and RI, Thrissur.

Population

Caregivers of patients admitted in Male surgery female surgery, male ortho, female ortho, male medical, female medical of JMMC & RL Thrissur.

Sample

Caregivers above 18 years of age and who met inclusion criteria.

Sample size

Sample consist of 60 caregivers of age above 18 years in selected wards of JMMC and RI.

Sampling technique

Probability (Convenient sampling technique)

Criteria for sample selection

Inclusion Criteria

Caregivers of patients who are:

1. able to comprehend Malayalam
2. willing to participate
3. above 18 years of age

Exclusion Criteria

Caregivers of patients who are:

1. diagnosed confirmed to any cancer
2. in oncology ward
3. not willing to participate
4. mentally challenged

Description of the tool

The tool consists of parts 1 and 2.

Part 1: Demographic Data Sheet based on Age, Gender, Occupation, Marital Status, Socioeconomic Status, and Type of Family

Part 2: a self-structured questionnaire to assess the knowledge of cancer prevention among the caregivers. The questions were organized into six domains. It consists of 60 questions with two options. For each correct response, a score 1 was given, and for the wrong response, a score of 0 was given. The maximum score was 60, and the minimum score was 0.

Plan for data collection

The data collection is planned for two weeks. After getting formal permission from the principal of Jubilee Mission College of Nursing, the medical superintendent, the nursing superintendent, the HOD of the medical-surgical department, and the respective consultants of JMMC and RI, it is decided to take 60 samples from the selected wards of JMMC and RI after getting informed written consent. Demographic and clinical data was collected using baseline demographic and clinical questionnaires. A self-structured questionnaire was used to assess participants' knowledge of cancer prevention. The descriptive and inferential statistics were used for data analysis

III. Result

Table 1.1: Distribution of socio demographic and clinical data variables

Socio demographic variables	Frequency(f)	Percentage (%)
Age in years		
18-58	44	73.5%
59 and above	16	26.5%
Gender		
Male	27	45%
Female	33	55%
Occupation		
Employed	31	51.6%
Unemployed	29	48.3%
Marital status		
Married	56	93.3%
Unmarried	4	6.6%
Socio economic status		
APL	21	35%
BPL	39	65%
Type of family		
Nuclear family	10	16.6%
Joint family	50	83.3%

n=60

Table 1.1 : shows that the majority of subject belongs to age group of 18-58 years (73.5%).Majority (55%) of the subjects were female and (45%) were males. Pertaining to occupation majority of the subjects have job (51.6%) and (48.3%) don't have any job. Most of the subjects (93.3%) were married. With regard to socio economic status most of the subjects (65%) were BPL and (35%) were APL.. With regard to type of family most of the subjects (83.3%) belong to joint family.

Table 1.2 Distribution of caregivers of patients admitted in JMMC & RI based on previous experience for screening test to detect cancer, family history of cancer ,have any regular medication, and any life style changes to prevent cancer.

n =60

Do you have any previous experience for screening test to detect cancer		
Yes	4	6.6%
No	56	93.3%
Do you have any family history of cancer		
Yes	22	36.6%
No	38	63.3%

Do you have any regular medication		
Yes	25	41.6%
No	35	58.3%
Have you made any life style changes to prevent cancer		
Yes	9	15%
No	51	85%

Table 1.2 reveals that 56(93.3%) doesn't have any previous experience for screening test to detect cancer and 4(6.6%) have previous experience, regarding family history of cancer 38(63.3%) doesn't have any family history of cancer and 35 (58.3%) doesn't have any regular medication, 51(85%) doesn't made any lifestyle changes to prevent cancer.

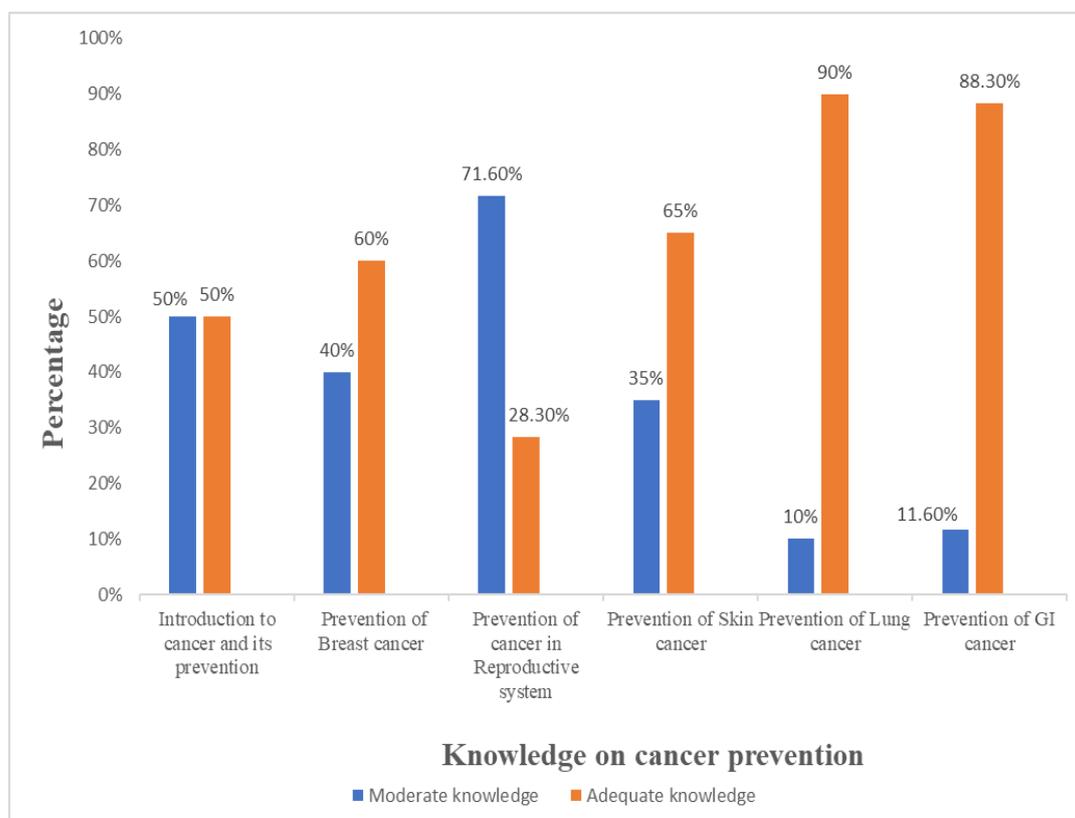


FIGURE 1: Bar diagram showing the percentage distribution of caregivers according to level of knowledge regarding cancer prevention

Data on Figure 1 shows that 30 [50%] have adequate knowledge on introduction to cancer and its prevention and 30 [50%] have moderate knowledge regarding the same. 36 [60%] have adequate knowledge on prevention of breast cancer. 17 [28.3%] have adequate knowledge on prevention of cancer in reproductive system. 39 [65%] have adequate knowledge on prevention of skin cancer. 54 [90%] have adequate knowledge on prevention of lung cancer. 53 [88.3%] have adequate knowledge on prevention of GI cancer

IV. Discussion

1. To assess the level of knowledge on cancer prevention among caregivers of patients admitted in selected wards.

During the data collection found that almost half of the people have adequate knowledge on cancer prevention. 60% of caregivers have adequate knowledge on prevention of breast cancer. Only 28.3% of caregivers have adequate knowledge on prevention of cancer in reproductive system . 65% of caregivers have adequate knowledge on prevention of skin cancer . Majority of them (90%) have adequate knowledge on prevention of lung cancer.88.3% caregivers have adequate knowledge on prevention of GI cancer .

2. To determine the association between the level of knowledge in cancer prevention and socio demographic variables of caregivers of patients admitted in selected wards.

A similar study was conducted by Mini Simon M on the effectiveness of self help group women in disseminating information regarding prevention and early detection of cancer . The study were conducted among 120 samples . Among women in the community 33(55%) of them were in age group 20 - 29 . Distribution shows that 52(86.7%) of them were married and 5 (8.3%) were single. 44 (73.3%) of the women were from nuclear family and 59(98.3%) belongs to Hindu religion.38(63.3%) of the women had not come across any client with cancer.31(51.7%) women had previous exposure to the information regarding prevention and early detection of cancer through health team members and media .In the above study age group of the subjects had significant association with the use of tobacco and education also had association with the use of tobacco at $P<0.01$.³⁷

In the present study hypothesis (H) is rejected. There is no significant association between knowledge on cancer prevention and socio demographic variables.

V. Conclusion

The study showed that almost half of the people have adequate knowledge on cancer prevention. 60% of caregivers have adequate knowledge on prevention of breast cancer. Only 28.3% of caregivers have adequate knowledge on prevention of cancer in reproductive system . 65% of caregivers have adequate knowledge on prevention of skin cancer . Majority of them (90%) have adequate knowledge on prevention of lung cancer.88.3% caregivers have adequate knowledge on prevention of GI cancer .There is no association between socio demographic data and level of knowledge on cancer prevention.