COMPARATIVE STUDY OF DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE OF CANCER CERVIX PATIENTS ATTENDING IOG IN THE CURRENT PERIOD WITH THAT OF FIVE YEARS AGO

ABSTRACT

INTRODUCTION

Cervical Cancer is an important cause of morbidity and mortality in women worldwide. Carcinoma of the cervix is a multifactorial disease and main causative agent is Human Papilloma Virus. Epidemiological studies have analysed many other risk factors like younger age at first intercourse (less than 16 years), multiple sexual partners, race, increased parity, environmental factors, genetic predisposition, cigarette smoking, low socioeconomic status and chronic immune suppression, micronutrient deficiency and others. Therefore socio-demographic risk quantification of cancer cervix has taken prime importance in evolution of programmes in public health for cancer cervix control.

AIM OF THE STUDY

This study compares the socio-demographic profile of patients with carcinoma cervix attending IOG in the current period 2014-15 with that of 5 years ago i.e.2009-10

MATERIALS AND METHODS

It is a retrospective case control study conducted at Institute of Obstetrics & Gynaecology Egmore, Chennai 8. The duration of study was one year and six months

METHODOLOGY

This is a record based comparative and descriptive study conducted in IOG. The data source is from IOG audit. The sociodemographic profile of carcinoma cervix patients who were treated in IOG in the current study period 2014-2015 will be compared with that of 5 years ago 2009-2010.The detailed history will be recorded in the proforma.

PROCEDURE

Records of all cancer cervix patients admitted in IOG in the years 2009, 2010, 2014 & 2015 will be obtained from Medical Records Section, IOG and analysed.

DATA COLLECTION & METHODS

The following data was collected - Age, residential area, religion, educational status, occupation, socio-economic status, marital status, age at marriage, parity, age at first issue, referral, screening method which first detected,colposcopic confirmation, presenting symptoms, type of lesion, stage of disease, biopsy findings are collected from IOG audit and statistical analysis done.

RESULTS AND ANALYSIS

The results were subjected to statistical analysis using T test and Chi-square test. The number of cancer cervix detected patients increased was 81% in the current period when compared to previous period. Interesting factor is that the detection in less than 35 years of age in 2009-2010 period is 31.7% whereas in 2014-2015 it is 68.3%. This shows the early detection of cases in the current period has increased. Subsequently the detection in other age goups is also increasing than the previous period. Eventhough age distribution between two periods is not statistically significant as evidenced by chi square value of 2.658 and p value of 0.617, the distribution of number of cases between two periods is uniformly increasing and this shows the number of detected cases between two periods. We can see elevation in cancer cervix detected cases. There exists a statistical significance between two periods with respect to residence as evidenced by chi square value of 52.960 and p value of 0.000.This is mainly due to awareness created by various Government programmes,and advertisements by media persons among rural folks. There exist a statistical significance among two groups with respect to education as evidenced by chi square value of 77.684 and p value of 0.000 between two periods.

We also infer that cancer detected cases were prevalent more in the literate group and also among rural population by the awareness program by health providers in the current period. There exists a statistical significance between two periods with respect to age of marriage as evidenced by p value of 0.000. The table inferred that there is steep decrease of early marriages in the current period when compared to previous period. As literacy rate and awareness of child marriage problems are increasing , early onset of marriage has been reduced in the current period. There exists a statistical significance among two periods with respect to parity status as evidenced by chi square value of 75.323 and p value of 0.000. This clearly shows cancer cervix detection is elevated in high parity women. There exists a statistical significance among two periods with respect to screening methods which first detected as evidenced by chi square value of 282.834 and p value of 0.000. Per speculum method alone as screening is having a low

sensitivity compared to other screening methods.

In present period only 5.8% patients were screened by per speculum alone. This clearly shows present period detection will be more accurate than the previous period with other screening methods. There exist a statistical significance with respect to colposcopic confirmation between two periods as evidenced by Chi square value of 1103.000 and p value of 0.000 There is a statistical significance between two groups with respect to different stages as evidenced by chi square value of 34.271 and p value of 0.000. The early detection of early stage cancers of the present period is 11.2% greater than the previous period of 6%.

CONCLUSION Cancer cervix continues to be a major health problem in countries like India .. This study is attempted to analyse the knowledge available regarding the epidemiology, various pattern of cervical cancer, and various risk factors.

In the current period, there is early detection of cases when compared to the previous period in women less than 35 years. The awareness among rural women has also increased due to the various government programmes and advertisements by media persons in the current period. Therefore the number of women detected among rural areas has been increased. As the literacy rates are increased in the current period as per educational statistics, the effectiveness of awareness programmes are also increased.

The early age at marriage and age at first issue is an important risk factor for cancer cervix and this has been reduced in the current period. With the changes in the socio-economic profile, different screening strategies, easy accessibility of screening services and with increased awareness among women including women from rural areas with adequate literacy rate, there is an elevation of cancer cervix detection in the early stage itself in the current period when compared to the previous period.

With early detection, patients could be treated effectively and the morbidity and mortality could be decreased.

KEY WORDS : Cancer Cervix, Demographic profile, Risk factors