

**MODELLING THE FACTORS AFFECTING WOMEN
TO UPTAKE PAP TEST**

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DECLARATION

I declare that this is my own work and this dissertation does not incorporate without acknowledgement any material previously submitted for a Degree or Diploma in any other University or institute of higher learning and to the best of my knowledge and belief it does not contain any material previously published or written by another person except where the acknowledgement is made in the text.

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Abstract

Cervical cancer is a leading cause of deaths among women worldwide. But the condition is preventable and can be detected prior to the symptoms appear through regular screening of pap test. Although screening facilities are available freely, the non-uptake of pap test by the women in vulnerable ages remains very high. Purpose of the study is to determine the level of knowledge and practice on cancer of cervix and screening and the influential factors for uptake of pap test amongst women (> 35 years) in Jaffna. A random sample of size 225 from Tamil community was selected and a structural questionnaire was used to obtain the necessary data. Irrespective of different variables only 64% were aware of the pap test and 87% of women in Jaffna district have never uptaken the pap test. Furthermore, 47% were unaware of any one of the signs and symptoms while 29% were unaware of the risk factors. The χ^2 analysis found that age category, income category, educational level, the knowledge on signs and symptoms, heard of cervical cancer screening, knowledge on signs and symptoms, heard of cervical cancer screening, knowing the possibility of detection, awareness of health facilities for screening services, and knowledge of cervical cancer screening, status of use of contraceptives, and family engagement are significant on uptake of pap test. When all factors are considered simultaneously, it was found that, education level, total monthly income, knowledge of detection before symptoms, participation of awareness program, knowledge of cancer screening, use of contraceptives are significantly positively influence on the odd ratio of not being up taking the pap test. The predictive power of the fitted model is 88%. The odds of not up taking the pap test by women is 254 times higher for those who have primary education compared to those who have tertiary education and above. The corresponding figure for those have secondary education is 76. The odds of not up taking the pap test is 6 times higher for women whose total family income lesser 25, 000/= compared to the women whose family income is higher than 50, 000/= . The odds of not up taking the pap test by those who are not using contraceptives is 5.7 times higher than that of who are taking oral contraceptives. The inferences derived in this study need to be used effectively for the benefit of women in Jaffna district.

Keywords: *Binary Logistic Model, Cervical cancer, Knowledge of Cancer Screening, Odd Ratio, Pap Test, Uptake, Women*

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ACOG	- American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology
ANOVA	- Analysis of Variance
ASR	- Age standardized rate
CCS	- Cancer of Cervix and Screening
DES	- Di Ethyl Stilbestrol
FHB	- Family Health Bureau
HPV	- Human Papilloma Virus
MOH	- Medical officer of health
OR	- Odds Ratio
STIs	- Sexually Transmitted Infections
UK	- United Kingdom
USA	- United States of America
WHO	- World Health Organization
W – WC	- Well Women Clinic