13th Annual Scientific Conference & Gathering

Theme: Environmental Virology, Exposomics and Epigenetics

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CERVICAL CANCER SCREENING: KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDE AND PRACTICE AMONG WOMEN LIVING IN A LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA IN LAGOS STATE

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Background: Cervical cancer is a major public health issue in the world, with increasing incidence in developing countries like Nigeria, due to late detection. The objective of this study was to determine the knowledge, attitude and practice of cervical cancer screening among women living in Surulere Local Government Area, Lagos state.

Materials and methods: This was a descriptive cross-sectional study among 250 women aged above 18 years living in Surulere LGA, Lagos, Nigeria. Respondents were selected through multistage sampling technique, a structured interviewer administered questionnaire was used to collect data. Data was analyzed using Epi Info 7.1.5. The level of statistical significance was set at 5% and results obtained were presented using frequency tables.

Results: Among the respondents, 68.7% were aware of cervical cancer. The most common source of information was the media. Among the respondents who were aware of cervical cancer, only 5.7% had good knowledge while 89.2% had good attitude to cervical cancer and its screening. However, only 10% of all the respondents had ever been screened for cervical cancer. The major reason given for not being screened was lack of recommendation by medical personnel.

Conclusions: Respondents had poor knowledge but good attitude to cervical cancer and its screening. Few of the respondents had been screened for cervical cancer. Awareness programs for cervical cancer should be instituted in order to improve knowledge, attitude and practice of cervical cancer screening.

Keywords: Cervical Cancer, screening, knowledge, attitude, practice.