

Community-based Cervical Disease Screening among Reproductive Aged Women at Rural Areas of Pyin Oo Lwin Township

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Abstract

Cervical cancer is a unique important public health problem and one of the most preventable cancers as the premalignant conditions can be identified early through the effective screening programme. A cross-sectional descriptive study which is community and laboratory-based, was done at the rural areas of Pyin Oo Lwin Township and the Pathology Research Division, Department of Medical Research (Upper Myanmar) during the period from August 2010 to February 2011. The purpose of this study is to determine the prevalence of abnormal cervical diseases among reproductive aged women. A total sample size of 264 women, 20 – 49 years old, was enrolled in this study. All the attendee women were checked for the diseases of the cervix by using the conventional cytology, papanicolaou screening test and the results were reported according to the Classification of Bethesda System. Among the 264 study subjects, 132 cases (**50%, 95% CI = 43.98% - 56.02%**) were normal, 104 cases (**39.4%, 95% CI = 33.6% - 45.3%**) showed the benign cellular changes and 24 cases (**9.1%, 95% CI= 6.01% - 13.03%**) had squamous intraepithelial lesions including both low grade squamous intraepithelial lesions, **LSIL [19 cases, (7.2%)]** and high grade squamous intraepithelial lesions, **HSIL [5 cases (1.9%)]**. Taking into consideration of the above results, this study recognized the high prevalence of the premalignant conditions among the asymptomatic women and highlighted the urgent need of the National Screening Programme for Cervical Cancer in Myanmar.