

# THE EFFECTIVENESS OF HEALTH PROMOTION METHODS IN INCREASING THE KNOWLEDGE AND ATTITUDES OF HEALTH CADRES REGARDING EARLY DETECTION OF CERVICAL CANCER

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#### Abstract

Cervical cancer is the second leading cause of female death in Indonesia. One way to prevent it is by early detection. To achieve the coverage of good early detection, it is necessary to increase public knowledge about hazards, risk factors, prevention, and early detection. To compare the effectiveness of health promotion methods in increasing the knowledge and attitudes of health cadres regarding early detection of cervical cancer. Quasi experimental. The subjects were health cadres in Nilam Sari Health Centre. Interventions in the form of counseling with videos or without videos concerning early detection of cervical cancer. The research design was a pre-test and post-test. The research instrument used a questionnaire with 30 knowledge questions and 19 attitude questions which were declared valid and reliable. The statistical test used was Wilcoxon test, Mann Whitney test, Pearson correlation test and multiple linear regression test. Out of 20 respondents, counseling with videos significantly increased the knowledge and attitudes of health cadres (p = 0,000), but this increase was not significantly different (p = 0.175 and p = 0.740). The outside variables that influence with negative correlation is education (p = 0.009). Counseling with or without videos administration is not different to increase health cadres' knowledge and attitudes.

*Keywords: early detection; cervical cancer; health cadres; health promotion* 

## INTRODUCTION

Cervical cancer is still a health problem for women in Indonesia due to its high incidence and mortality rate.<sup>1</sup> The way to control cervical cancer is through early detection and treatment of precancerous lesions. Increasing the scope of early detection is very important in this control effort.<sup>2</sup> The early detection program for cervical cancer carried out in women aged 25 to 65 years, at least every 3 years until the age of 49 years and continued every 5 years thereafter can be expected to reduce the mortality rate by around 80%.<sup>3</sup>

Academics or universities as one of the organizations involved in cancer control

in Indonesia are expected to be able to support cancer control by conducting research, scientific seminars to increase staff knowledge and involving the community so that they can increase knowledge and awareness to play an active role in implementing cancer control. <sup>4</sup>

Increasing knowledge can be sought through training in the hope of increasing the scope of early detection of cervical cancer. <sup>5</sup> A person's knowledge is greatly influenced by education, employment, experience and information received by a person in the form of health messages via print or electronic media.

Cadres are men or women chosen by the community and trained to deal with health problems both individual and community and to work in very close contact with basic health service places. Cadres are the embodiment of conscious and planned efforts to foster community initiative and participation to improve living standards. In this effort, cadres are given certain skills to become "agents of change" who will bring new norms that are in accordance with existing norms in the local area.<sup>6</sup> This research aims to compare the effectiveness of health promotion methods (a combination of counseling and video and counseling) alone. in increasing the knowledge and attitudes of health cadres regarding early detection of cervical cancer.

## **RESEARCH METHODS**

This research uses quasiа experimental method with a pre-test and post-test design. The treatment group received counseling and videos, while the control group received counseling only. This research was carried out at the Nilam Sari Health Center with subjects from all cadres in the area. This study assessed differences in respondents' knowledge scores and attitudes regarding early detection of cervical cancer before and after treatment. In addition, this research assesses the influence of age, level of education, previous information, time of last information received and income which may have an influence on respondents' knowledge and attitudes. Providing counseling is carried out by the author. The instrument in the form of a questionnaire in the form of 30 knowledge questions and 19 attitude questions was tested and declared valid and reliable.

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

The number of cadres who attended and became respondents was 20 people. Characteristics of research subjects are shown in .

Table 1. Differences in Knowledge and
Attitudes Before and After Counseling

		Kelompok			
		Counseling		Just	
		&	Videos	Cou	inseling
Age	< 50 years	8	80%	9	90%
-	$\geq$ 50 years	2	20%	1	10%
Education	Did not	6	60%	3	30%
	pass basic education				
	Completed basic	4	40%	7	70%
Work	education Working mother	4	40%	3	30%
	Housewife	6	60%	7	70%

The mean knowledge score before and after counseling with or without leaflets increased significantly with a value of p=0.000 (p<0.05).

Table 2.
Differences in Knowledge Scores Before
and After Counseling

and The Counsering					
Group	Before	After	p-value		
Counseling +video	20,00	23,40	0,000		
Counseling	18,20	21,3	0,000		

Likewise, the average attitude score before and after counseling with or without leaflets increased significantly with a value of p=0.000 (p<0.05).

Table 3.
Differences in Attitude Scores Before and
After Counseling

Alter Counseinig						
Group	Before	After	p-value			
Counseling +video	59,70	67,60	0,002			
Counseling	54,90	60,40	0,014			

This shows that providing counseling with or without providing leaflets is effective in increasing knowledge and attitude scores.

Increasing cadre knowledge is greatly training. Meanwhile, influenced by knowledge or cognitive and skills or psychomotor are very important domains for shaping a person's behavior. Many factors influence the success of a process of providing public health videos, whether from the video, the target or in the process of providing the video. <sup>5</sup> The video in this study was provided immediately during a discussion forum. after providing counseling and followed by a post-test. So it is possible for cadres to read the videos

they receive, although respondents may open the videos as a reference when giving post-test answers. Apart from that, the success of the video in this research was possible because of the video itself.

Research conducted by Gatewood states that the level of understanding and tendency to act is positively related to a higher level of education.<sup>7</sup> This is because formal education is not related to the knowledge and health education that respondents have received, as in the results of several previous studies. <sup>89</sup> So women who have high formal education do not necessarily have better health knowledge and therefore do not necessarily have good knowledge and attitudes towards early detection of cervical cancer than women who have low formal education but have good health knowledge. The knowledge and attitudes of someone with a low level of education can be improved, one of which is through health information services. <sup>10</sup> The more information that comes in, the more knowledge one gets about health and is able to shape and improve a person's attitudes.<sup>10</sup> In this study, the source of information that was previously received and the last time the information was received did not affect the increase in knowledge and attitudes in both groups.<sup>11</sup>

## CONCLUSION

There is a significant increase in the knowledge and attitudes of health cadres regarding early detection of cervical cancer in health promotion with counseling with or without providing videos.

Further evaluation is needed to assess the medium and long-term knowledge of health cadres regarding early detection of cervical cancer. And there is a need for further research regarding the knowledge and attitudes of the community in the area of health cadres who have received counseling to evaluate the delivery of information regarding early detection of cervical cancer to the community. Further research is needed to evaluate whether there is an increase in the scope of early detection of cervical cancer in the community after outreach by cadres.

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