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Letter to the Editor

Prevalence and associated risk factors of abnormal Pap smear in pregnant women

Sir,

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Mohindroo N et al, conducted a prospective study about the prevalence and risk factors associated with abnormal pap smear in pregnant women.¹ This study is in need of the hour because carcinoma cervix is on increasing trend due to multiple sexual partners, HPV infection, and use of OCP in young women lead in increase in adenocarcinoma of cervix.² Indian women face a 2.5% cumulative lifetime risk and 1.4% cumulative death risk from cervical cancer.¹

Prevalence of abnormal pap smear in present study was 53.9%. Women should start their screening for carcinoma cervix at 21 years, regardless of sexual activity. Carcinoma cervix is a disease with long latent phase; women should be screened earlier to detect pre-invasive lesions, so that they can be treated earlier stage.

Authors agree with the author, awareness about screening methods is very less among rural population so antenatal period should be used as opportunity to screen these women.

Authors agree with the author, education and awareness should be created about carcinoma cervix among rural population, importance of early screening, so that carcinoma cervix can be detected at earlier stage.

Authors should incorporate screening for carcinoma cervix in antenatal period so that, the lesions are identified at earlier stage.

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