

An Exploratory Study to Assess the Relationship between Cancer Awareness and Patient's Response to the Cancer Diagnosis among Patients in Selected Hospital, Ludhiana, Punjab

Jaspreet Kaur Sodhi*, Riya Sood*

*M.D. Oswal College of Nursing, Ludhiana - 141009 Punjab.

Abstract

Movement a life came into existence its heading towards death but being busy with daily routines of life human mind tend to forget this ultimate reality of life. Still certain nuances act as sudden encounter with this forgotten truth and one of such kind is getting diagnosed with a deadly disease like cancer. The present study "A exploratory study to assess the relationship between cancer awareness and patient's response to the cancer diagnosis among patients in selected hospital, Ludhiana, Punjab." With given objectives:-1.To assess level of awareness among cancer patients. 2.To assess the effect of cancer awareness on patient's response to the cancer diagnosis, which includes patient's level of anxiety at the time of diagnosis disclosure & acceptance of the diagnosis is an effort to analyze effect of knowledge on response. The results revealed that 505 of the subject had average level of knowledge and those having average knowledge experience high level of anxiety as compare to others.

Keywords: Cancer Awareness; Patient's Response; Anxiety.

Operational Definitions

Awareness: Refers to knowledge regarding the disease, Its causes, treatment and prognosis.

Patient's response includes following terms:-

1. Acceptance to the diagnosis which will be measured by asking whether they are satisfied with the diagnosis or they want to have an second opinion.
2. Anxiety at the time of disclosure of the diagnosis measured via self structured state anxiety questionnaire.

Methodology

Research Design and Approach

Quantitative approach and exploratory design.

Target Population

The target population was the 1st time diagnosed Cancer patients getting treatment in M.D. Oswal, Multispeciality hospital, Ludhiana.

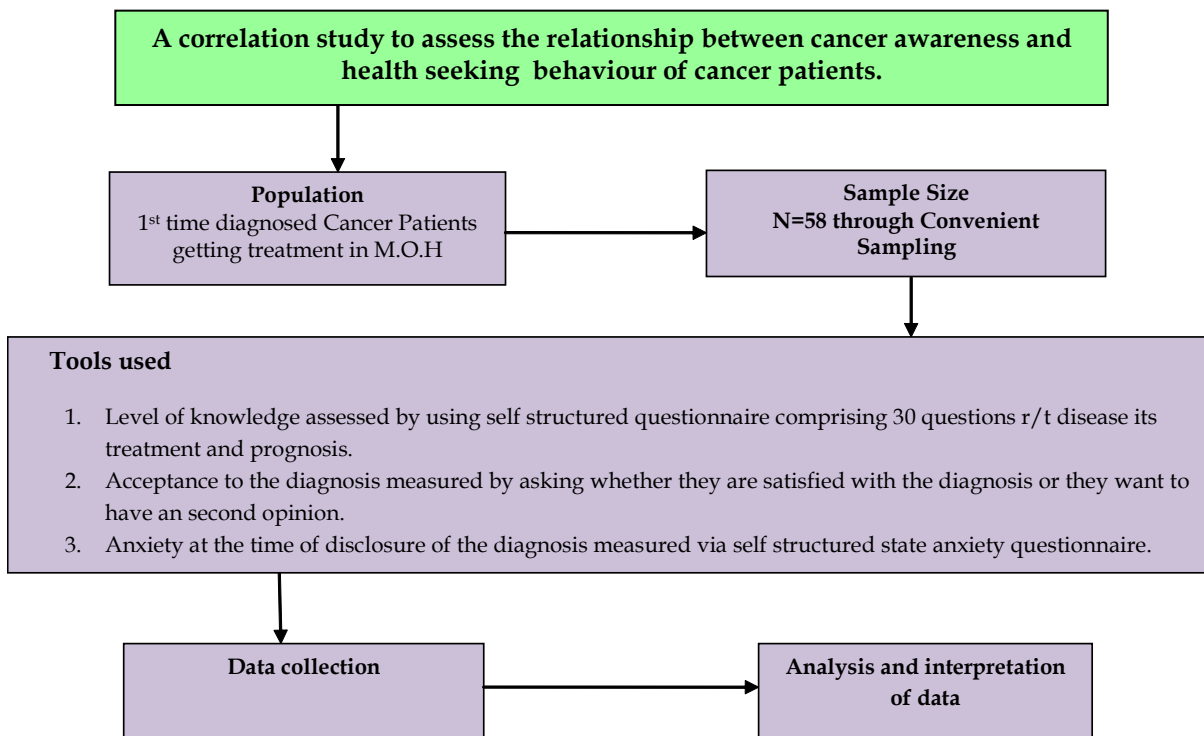
Sample and Sampling Technique

58 subjects were selected using convenient sampling technique.

A correlation study to assess the relationship between cancer awareness and health seeking behaviour of cancer patients.

Reprint Request: Riya, Associate Professor, M.D. Oswal College of Nursing, Ludhiana - 141009 Punjab.
E-mail: soodriya3@yahoo.com

Research Design



Data Collection

Data collection procedure:- Data was collected for 10 months from Sep-2015 to June-2016. 65 Subjects comprising first time cancer diagnosed patients from various O.P.Ds were selected by using convenient sampling technique. Subjects were assessed at various parameters using different tools mentioned in the research design.

Analysis and Interpretation:-

Section I

Description of sample characteristics:- in this majority (22) subjects were from age group 56-66.5 years, maximum(14) no of subjects were having cervical cancer, gender wise no of males (30) was more than females and in case of source of information maximum 68.9% got information from their relatives.

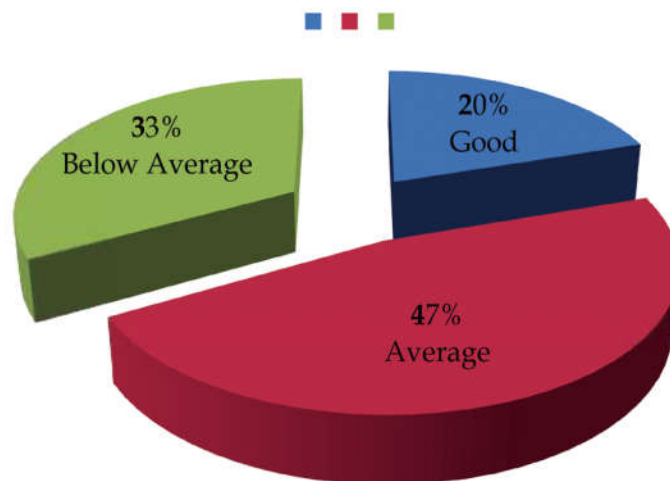


Fig. 1: Frequency % according to level of knowledge related to cancer

Section II

Objective 1 :- To assess level of awareness among first time cancer diagnosed patients.

Objective 2:- To assess the effect of cancer

awareness and patient's response to the cancer diagnosis among patients, which includes patient's level of anxiety at the time of diagnosis disclosure & acceptance of the diagnosis.

Categories of acceptance to the treatment	Level of Knowledge		
	Good	Average	Below Average
Early acceptance	8	17	7
Late acceptance	3	12	11

Level of Anxiety	Level of Knowledge		
	Good	Average	Below Average
Very High	4	10	3
High	7	14	10
Moderate	-	5	5

Conclusion

From present study this can be concluded that majority 50% of the subjects were having average level of knowledge related to cancer and maximum subjects experienced high level of anxiety after disclosure of their diagnosis by the physician.

References

- Masod S. Plea for a worldwide volunteer cancer education and awareness program, *Acta Cytol* 1999; 43:530-40.
- Ministry of Health Thailand. Thailand's Health Technical Report of Health ministry, Thailand; 1999.
- Social Bulletin, Malaysia 2005. Kuala Lumpur: Department of Social Statistics, Malaysia; 2005.
- Walbomers JM, Jacobs MV, Manoos MM, et al. Human papillomavirus is a cause of invasive cancer worldwide. *J Pathol* 1999; 189:12-9.
- Lantz P, Stecil D, Lipert MT, et al. Breast cancer screening in a low-income group care sample: the efficacy of physicians efforts, *Am J Pub Health* 1995; 85:87-6.
- Hill DJ, Garner G, Rassaby J. Factors responsible women to take precautions against breast and cervical cancer. *J Apl Soc Psych.* 1985; 16:59-63.