

# WOMEN'S KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDES, AND PRACTICES REGARDING CERVICAL CANCER SCREENING AT THE REFERENCE HEALTH CENTER OF THE COMMUNE VI OF THE DISTRICT OF BAMAKO

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**Introduction :** cervical cancer remains a public health problem in developing countries. Our study aimed to describe and analyze women's knowledge, attitudes and practices regarding cervical cancer screening.

**Materials and methods:** the study aimed to describe the knowledge, attitudes and practices of women who came for cervical cancer screening in the referral center of the district of Bamako over a period of eight months.

**Résultats:** we collected 100 women, whose mean age was 37.90 years with extremes of 18 and 65 years. The existence of cervical cancer was known by 71% of the women. Risk factors, symptoms and treatment methods were known by 29%, 38% and 98% respectively. Only 40% of the women were aware of Screening methods. Screening was considered necessary by 68% of the cases and 40% had this practical attitude, considering cervical cancer as a serious disease.

**Table I:** distribution of women according to attitude and knowledge

Attitude	knowledge		Total
	Yes	No	
Serious disease	53	1	54
Not a serious disease	1	0	1
Infrequent disease	2	28	30
Very common disease	1	0	1
Uncommon serious disease	14	0	14
<b>Total</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>100</b>

**Table II:** distribution of women by age group and actual practice of cervical cancer screening

Age group	Cervical cancer screening practice		Total
	Oui	Non	
18-30 years	42	22	64
31-45 years	20	7	27
46-65 years	6	3	9
<b>Total</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>100</b>

**Conclusion :** cervical cancer screening is improving according to studies conducted in Mali. However, it is clear that the practice of screening depends on the Knowledge of the participants and that the attitude depends on the practice.

## REFERENCES

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