Intrapersonal Barriers and Facilitators to Cervical Cancer Screening of Women with HIV in Surat, India

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**BACKGROUND**

- Women who have HIV have an increased risk of being infected with HPV. HPV is often the established cause of Cervical Cancer (CC).
- HIV positive women have an increased prevalence rate of HPV and are at a higher risk of being diagnosed with invasive CC.
- It is recommended that HIV positive women be screened for CC every 6 months starting within 1 year of diagnosis of HIV and yearly afterward.
- However, currently, less than 3% of Indian women receive CC screening.

**SPECIFIC AIMS**

- Evaluate the intrapersonal barriers and facilitators in receiving Cervical Cancer prevention, screening, and treatment for HIV positive women living in Surat, India.
- Create an intervention plan to help improve access and adherence to Cervical Cancer prevention, screening, and treatment services.

**METHODS**

- An Intervention Mapping approach, guided by the Social Ecological Model (SEM).
- In-depth interviews with 25 women living with HIV and 15 stakeholders at the New Civil Hospital ART Center in Surat or at a private location specified by the participant.
- Interviews lasted approximately 35 minutes and will follow a semi-structured interview guide.
- Interviews were then audiotaped, transcribed and translated into English.
- Once translated the interviews were imported into NVivo, a qualitative software. When entered into NVivo the data was analyzed for key/emerging themes and for any intrapersonal barriers and facilitators.

**RESULTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Results from Interviews</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wants to learn more about Pap Smears</td>
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<td>Believe they need test or follow-up care</td>
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<tr>
<td>Afraid of receiving Pap Smears</td>
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<tr>
<td>Knowledgeable about Pap Smears &amp; CC</td>
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<td>Comfortable with male Doctors</td>
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<td>Responsibilities suffer for a Doctors appointment</td>
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<td>Can afford travel expenses related to screening</td>
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**CONCLUSIONS**

- To improve Cervical Cancer prevention, screening and treatment outcomes factors from the intrapersonal level can be addressed.
- Continued research will be conducted in order to develop an intervention program that will utilize these research findings.

**REFERENCES**


**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**
For more information and references please contact Asha Abdullahi at: aabdullahi@sdsu.edu

Research reported in this poster was supported by the National Cancer Institute of the National Institutes of Health under award numbers: U54CA132384 & U54CA132379