

INCREASING THE PERCENTAGE OF PAP SMEAR SCREENING AMONG WOMEN AGED 30-65 YEARS OLD IN TANAH PUTEH HEALTH CLINIC (KKTP)

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Selection of Opportunities for Improvement

Cervical cancer is the fourth most common cancer in women worldwide and in Malaysia. It is the second most common cancer among Sarawakian females and the incidence is 12.1 per 100,000 in Sarawak⁽¹⁾. The National Health and Morbidity Survey conducted in 2019 showed only 36.6% of women age 20 years old and above in Malaysia have undertaken pap smear (PS) screening⁽²⁾. PS screening can detect the earliest signs of cervical cancer.

From year 2017 until 2021, Tanah Puteh Health Clinic (KKTP) failed to achieve the pap smear screening target of 40% for eligible women age 30 – 65 years old.

Key Measures for Improvement

The percentage of women aged 30-65 who performed PS screening from the total eligible women attending KKTP in 2022 with a standard of 40%.

Process of Gathering Information

Cross-sectional studies were conducted to determine the percentage of screening done from 2017 to 2021, level of knowledge, attitude and practice (KAP) on PS among 70 women aged 30-65 who visited KKTP and 81 health care providers (HCP) who were involved in PS service. The surveys were done using validated questionnaires. A list of staff with credentialing and privileging (C&P) to perform PS and *e-Masa* analysis to evaluate waiting time for the procedure was also determined.

Analysis and Interpretation

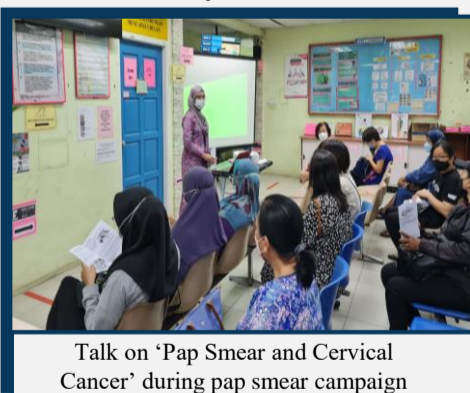
- Pre-remedial data showed that the percentage of PS screening was <17% since 2017 (as shown in Table 1).
- The mean scores for KAP on PS among patients was 65.57%, 89.86% and 95%.
- The mean scores for KAP among HCP showed that attitude and practice scored lower than knowledge.
- The mean waiting time for PS procedure in KKTP was 105 minutes.
- Only 37% of nurses have C&P for PS procedure.

Table 1: Percentage of pap smear among women age 30-65 years old in KKTP from 2017-2021

Year	Total Population	Target	Achievement	Percentage (%)
2017	2677	1071	391	14.61
2018	2677	1071	449	16.77
2019	2677	1071	401	8.33
2020	2677	1071	223	8.33
2021	2940	1176	281	9.56

Strategies for Change

Strategies include monthly campaigns, patients' education and promotion using pamphlets, posters and social media, implementing score cards as a reminder system for HCP to promote PS, creating a fast lane for patients to access the dedicated team for PS and having an internal C&P system.



Talk on 'Pap Smear and Cervical Cancer' during pap smear campaign



Internal C&P for pap smear procedure by privileged staff



Fast lane for pap smear

Score card for Pap Smear	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL
DR A	3	3	3	4						
DR B	4	4	4	4						
DR C	3	3	3	3						
DR D	4	4	4	4						
DR E	2	3	4	4						
DR F	3	4	3	3						
DR G	2	3	4	4						
DR H	3	3	3	4						
DR I	4	3	4	3						
DR J	2	3	3	4						
DR K	3	4	4	4						
DR L	3	4	3	3						
DR M	2	3	3	3						
DR N	3	4	3	4						
DR O	3	4	3	3						

Score card system for HCP



Pamphlet on Pap Smear



Poster on Pap Smear

Effect of Change

- The mean scores of KAP among patients were improved to 81.29%, 92.71% and 97.57% respectively.
- The mean scores of KAP among HCP were improved from 78.52%, 63.09%, 47.6% to 90.61%, 71.6%, 53.36% respectively.
- Mean waiting time was reduced to 17 minutes.
- Percentage of screening during the study period had increased from 9.56% to 56.07%.
- 100% of nurses have C&P for PS procedure within one month of intervention.

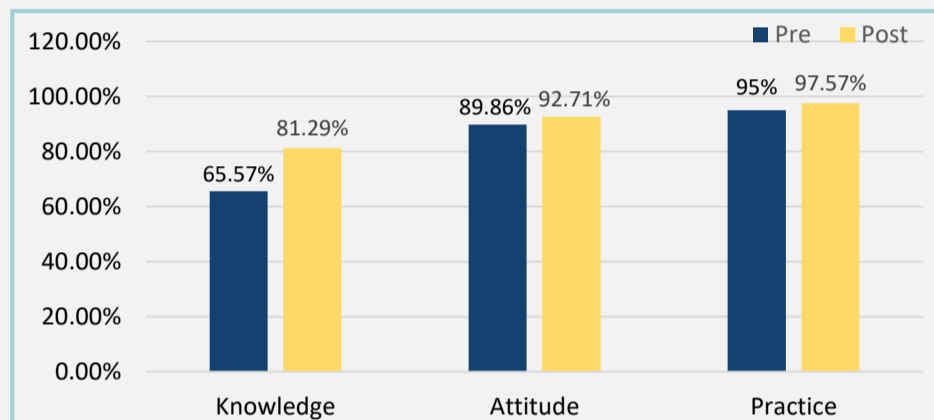


Chart 1: Pre and post remedial mean scores for KAP on pap smear among patients

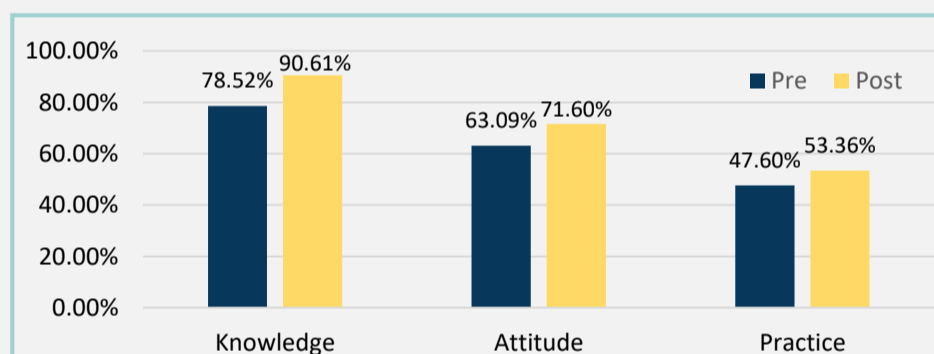


Chart 2: Pre and post remedial mean scores for KAP on pap smear among health care providers.

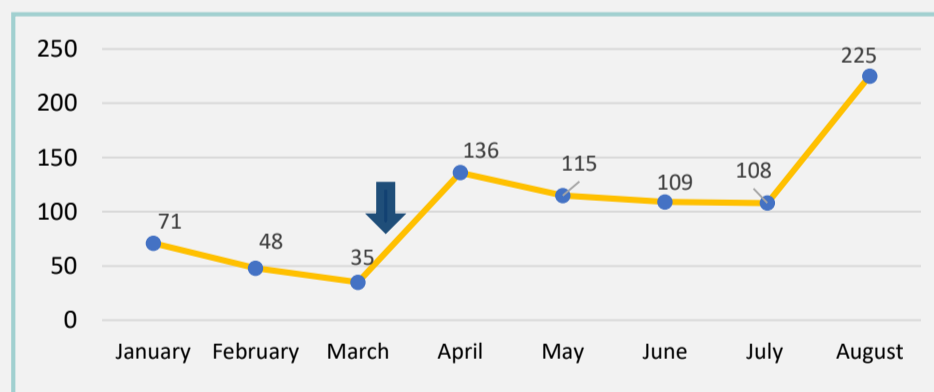


Chart 3: Number of pap smear screening done among women age 30-65 years old in KKTP from January till August 2022

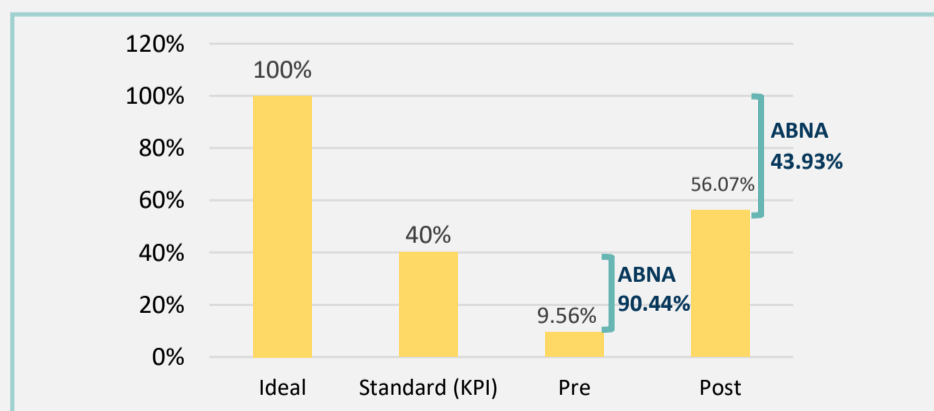


Chart 4: Percentage of pap smear screening among women age 30-65 years old in KKTP

The Next Step

We aim to replicate our remedial measures to other clinics, to obtain certification of our module for internal C&P and to empower the use of score card as a reminder system for HCP.

References:

- Cervical cancer highest in S'wak. (2019, August 31) New Sarawak Tribune. <https://www.newsarawaktribune.com.my/cervical-cancer-highest-in-swak/>
- Institute for Public Health, Ministry of Health Malaysia. (2020). *NCDs – Non-Communicable Diseases: Risk Factors and other Health Problems*. Malaysia National Health and Morbidity Survey 2019: Vol. I:134