

Thesis Title Factors Influencing the Acceptance
 of Pap Test Among Women in
 Chonburi Province.

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ABSTRACT

An analytical cross-sectional study was conducted in Muang District, Chonburi Province from March, 30th to April, 4th 1994 to determine the extent of the Pap test screening in Chonburi Province and the factors influencing the acceptance to that screening program. A total of 263 women aged between 35 to 65 years from urban and rural areas were interviewed to obtain information on socio-demographic characteristics, knowledge and perception on cervical cancer and Pap test, trigger factors present and the practice of attending Pap test screening.

The percentage of women ever had Pap test was 46.4 percent. There was no association between the age, place of

residence, marital status and number of ever-born children with the acceptance of Pap test. The proportion of the women with better socio-economic status ever had Pap test done was much higher than the one with lower socio-economic status, but none of the variables measuring the socio-economic status were statistically significant after controlling for other variables.

The trigger factors explored in this study did not significantly associated with the acceptance of Pap test, neither the level of knowledge on cervical cancer and Pap test. After controlling for all variables, it was only the level of the perception of the women towards cervical cancer and the Pap test that was significantly influenced the acceptance of pap test (Adjusted OR= 7.20 95%CI= 3.60-14.4).

In analysing the factors which influence the level of perception, it is shown that the cue from health education materials such as pamphlets, posters and handouts, ever practicing family planning and the used of long temporary method of family planning such as intra-uterine device or Norplant are significantly associated with the women perception on cervical cancer and Pap test. It might suggesting that focussed, repetitive and personnel approach are more appropriate to deliver the message on the importance of cervical cancer screening.

Thus, it is necessary to take into consideration of the relative importance of the different approaches such as focussed content, directed to the appropriate target, personal in nature and conducted repeatedly in delivering the messages on cervical cancer and Pap test, bearing in mind that it is the women perception that influence her decision on the acceptance of Pap test.