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PORNTIP TAKSIN : CERVICAL CANCER : PREVENTIVE HEALTH BEHAVIOR
REGARDING CERVICAL CANCER AMONG FEMALE COMMERCIAL SEX WORKERS
IN PATTAYA. THESIS ADVISOR : JARIYAWAT KOMPAYAK, M.P.H.,Dr.,P.H. USAPORN
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Cervical cancer is an important public health problem and the number of patients is gradually increasing every year. Female prostitutes are especially at risk. The purpose of this research is to identify preventive health behavior regarding cervical cancer among female commercial sex workers in Pattaya. 240 the female commercial sex workers in Pattaya were randomly sampled. The data were collected, using self-administered questionnaire. Percentage, mean, standard deviation, Chi-square, Contingency Coefficient and Pearson's Product Moment Correlation Coefficient were used for data analysis.

The results of the study reveal that the majority of the sample possessed undesirable health behavior in primary and secondary prevention of cervical cancer. The highest undesirable health behavior in primary prevention was stayed in cigarette smoking area 82.5%. The undesirable health behavior in secondary prevention was that 70.8% of the sample had never had pap smear done. They had true and false perceptions of cervical cancer (20.0% and 80.0%). Age and perception of cervical cancer were significantly related to primary and secondary prevention of cervical cancer. The information held concerning cervical cancer prevention was especially significant related to health behavior in secondary prevention.

It is suggested that members of the health team should provide information of cervix cancer prevention for female commercial sex workers through various types of available activities and setting pap smear and sexually transmitted diseases diagnosis services.