

## ABSTRACT

**Background:** Utilization of the cervical cancer screening in Lamwo district is low when compared with the recommended WHO guidelines. Uptake of cervical cancer screening is 5% lower than the national average of 19% (UDHS, 2011) and the reasons for this low uptake in Kitgum is not well understood. This information gap has led to delayed diagnosis of cervical cancer in the district, eventually leading to presentation in late stages, terminal illnesses, economic burden to the family and eventual death.

**Objective:** The aim of the study was to assess the knowledge, attitude and practices of premalignant cervical lesions screening among women aged 15-60 years in Padibe Health Centre IV, Lamwo District.

**Method:** A descriptive cross sectional study was employed to assess the knowledge, attitude and practices of premalignant cervical lesions screening among women aged 15-60 years in Padibe Health Centre IV, Lamwo District. A total of 236 women attending patients Padibe Health Centre IV, Lamwo District were included in this study using non probability, convenient sampling technique. A structured questionnaire was used to collect data. Data were entered and analyzed using SPSS version 20.

**Result:** From the assessment done the level of utilization of the premalignant cervical cancer screening was 4.7%. 53.0% have heard about cervical cancer while 49.2% knew about cervical cancer screening. 19.9% of the respondents first learn about carcinoma of the cervix from friend, family, neighbors and colleagues. 34.3% mentioned pap smears as one of the procedures used in screening for premalignant cervical lesions. Respondent 95.3% % said screening for premalignant cervical cancer lesions is expensive. Only 48.3% of the respondents said they would have screened assuming screening was free and causes no harms. 52.1% of the respondents said it is true that some religion are against screening.

Conclusion: I believe this study inculcates sensitization on the public evidence based health practices through educational programs and availing the required service to the people to help improve the health of women but also their level of knowledge so as to increase the cervical cancer practices. In addition cervical cancer screening awareness should be rolled down in schools most especially girls should be encourage to do early screening and where to obtain a the service so as to minimize cervical cancer cases and complication.