ABSTRACT

CHARACTERISTICS AND HEALTH SEEKING BEHAVIOUR IN CERVICAL CANCER PATIENTS IN GENERAL HOSPITAL DR. SOETOMO SURABAYA

Ferninda S Ramadani, Budi Utomo, Ernawati

Background: Cervical cancer reaches second women cancer prevalence in Indonesia. The amount of studies that concern in characteristic and health seeking behaviour in cervical cancer patients in General Hospital Dr. Soetomo Surabaya is very limited. The aim of this study is to explore the characteristic and health seeking behaviour in cervical cancer patients in General Hospital Dr. Soetomo.

Method: This is a descriptive study with cross sectional design that was conducted in June until July, 2016 and there were 120 respondents involved. The instrument of this study was using questionnaire and gatherer data sheets. The inclusion criteria was the patients who’s diagnosed before and supported by histopathology result.

Result: Characteristics of 120 respondents show that 40% respondents are 50-59 years old, 47.5% respondents have low education level, 90% respondents have low total family income, 94.17% respondents have cervical cancer stage between IIb and IIIb, 60.83% respondents has high risk factors. The health seeking behaviour show that 40.8% respondents use traditional or alternative therapy apart of medical treatment, 60% respondents have high family support, 60.83% respondents have good knowledge about cervical cancer, 67.5% respondents had abnormal vaginal discharge as their symptom, 97.5% respondents went to medical service to examine their symptoms, 65% respondents got the examination unless a month after got the symptoms, and 41.7% respondents has <15 minutes to reach the medical service.

Conclusions: Characteristics of this study show that partially respondents’ ages are 50-59 years old with high risk factors and almost of them also in IIb-IIIb cervical cancer stadium. The health seeking behaviour show that most of respondents got the examination unless a month after got the symptoms, almost of them went to medical service to examine their symptoms, and most of the respondents have high family support when they get the cervical treatment.

Keyword: cervical cancer, characteristics, health seeking behaviour.