

# Frequency of Cervical Cancer in Women attending Gynae OPD with Complaint of Abnormal Vaginal Bleeding

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## ABSTRACT

**Background:** The leading cause of death for women in developing countries is cervical cancer and the 3<sup>rd</sup> most common cause of cancer in women is cervical carcinoma. So proper screening and management screening is vital.

**Objective:** The aim of the study as to explore the Frequency of cervical cancer in women attending Gynae OPD with complaint of abnormal vaginal bleeding.

**Material and method:** The current study was carried out at the department of Gynaecology and Obstetrics, of King Abdullah Teaching Hospital Mansehra and Government General Hospital, Nishtarabad, Peshawar from January, 2023 to June, 2023, after following the permission from the ethical boards of the hospitals. A total of 83 individuals participated in this study. Married women presented to the Gynae OPD with abnormal vaginal bleeding ( $\geq 3$  menstrual cycles) of reproductive age (18-15 years) were included. Data including, duration of symptoms, party, age, name, age, and parity were collected. The samples were obtained by punch biopsy and examined at the pathology lab. Cervical cancer was confirmed by cervical tissue biopsy and histopathology. Data was analyzed using SPSS version 21 .Data was presented in mean, frequency, standard deviation and percentages. A P value  $<0.05$  was considered significant when the chi-square test was applied.

**Results:** A total of 83 females with abnormal vaginal bleeding were examined out of which 13 (15.6%) were diagnosed with cervical carcinoma. Age groups 36–45 years old had the highest incidence of cervical cancer (8.4%), followed by 26–35 years old (6.2%), whereas women in the 18–25 age group did not have any cervical carcinoma. it was found that 24% of women had five children, which was the highest parity, while 14.4% of women had no kids, 33.7% had one or two children, and 27.7% had three or four children. Individuals who presented with symptoms that lasted longer were shown to have a higher incidence of cervical cancer cases (P value = 0.405)

**Conclusion:** The study concluded that women with abnormal vaginal bleed had high frequency of cervical cancer (15%). Women who are younger and have lower parity are less likely to suffer from this condition.

**Keywords:** Cervical Cancer, cause of death for women, Abnormal Vaginal Bleeding, cervical carcinoma.

## INTRODUCTION

The leading cause of death for women in developing countries is cervical cancer. It is 3<sup>rd</sup> most common type of cancer in women under 45.<sup>1</sup>This mortality rate also serves as a useful indicator of health inequities, as eighty six percent of all cancer-related deaths occur in emerging, low-income, and middle-income countries.<sup>2-3</sup> Early identification and treatment can reduce the risk of death from cervical cancer because it is one of the diseases that can have a pre-cancerous stage that can persist for years before proceeding to a deadly stage.<sup>4-5</sup> A considerable percentage of women still have very advanced stages of the disease, and the death rate is still fairly high, despite the fact that the disease is preventable .In Pakistan the prevalence of this disease in women is due to the lack of awareness and screening protocols.<sup>6</sup> A study found that it is the second most common cancer overall in women and in Pakistani women aged 15 to 44.<sup>7</sup> Any bleeding that occurs during a period that is not typical or anticipated is referred to as abnormal vaginal bleeding.<sup>8</sup> The bleeding may be extremely light, showing very little blood between spots, or it may be substantial, soaking a pad "every 1-2 hours for two or more hours.<sup>9</sup> A family history of the disease, immunosuppression, smoking, intrauterine device (IUD) usage, HPV infection, and chlamydia infection are among the risk factors for cervical cancer.<sup>10</sup> Human papillomavirus (HPV) is frequently contracted by young women during their first sexual encounters. If the infection continues, viral oncoproteins disrupt the cell-cycle's regulation, leading to cervical intraepithelial neoplasia.<sup>11</sup>

## MATERIAL AND METHOD

The current study was carried out at the department of

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Gynaecology and Obstetrics, of King Abdullah Teaching Hospital Mansehra and Government General Hospital, Nishtarabad, Peshawar from January, 2023 to June, 2023 after following the permission from the ethical boards of the hospitals. A total of 83 individuals participated in this study. Married women presented to the Gynae OPD with abnormal vaginal bleeding ( $\geq 3$  menstrual cycles) of reproductive age (18-15 years) were included while individuals above 45, pregnant women, and those who had abortion history within the previous six months were not were excluded. Participants who complained of abnormal vaginal bleeding were seen out. Data including, duration of symptoms, party, age, name, age, and parity were collected. The samples were obtained by punch biopsy and examined at the pathology lab. Cervical cancer was confirmed by cervical tissue biopsy and histopathology. Data was analyzed using SPSS version 21 .Data was presented in mean, frequency, standard deviation and percentages. A P value  $<0.05$  was considered significant when the chi-square test was applied.

## RESULTS

A total of 83 females with abnormal vaginal bleeding were examined out of which 13 (15.6%) were diagnosed with cervical carcinoma (figure 1). The mean age the participants was  $38.12 \pm 4.33$  years. Age groups 36–45 years old had the highest incidence of cervical cancer (8.4%), followed by 26–35 years old (6.2%), whereas women in the 18–25 age group did not have any cervical carcinoma. as presented in table 1. According to the current study, the mean parity was  $2.21 \pm 1.67$  children. Further, it was found that 24% of women had five children, which was the highest parity, while 14.4% of women had no kids, 33.7% had one or two children, and 27.7% had three or four children (table2). Individuals who presented with symptoms that lasted longer were shown to have a higher incidence of cervical cancer cases (P value = 0.405) (table 3).

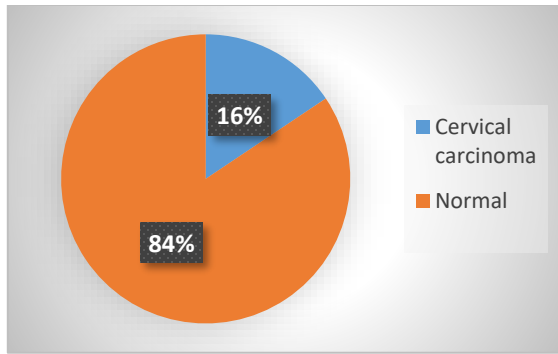


Figure 1: Percentage of cervical carcinoma

Table 1: Age wise distribution of the study population

Age in years	Cervical cancer N= 83		Total	Value of P
	No	Yes		
18 to 25	17(100)	Zero	17	0.003
26 to 35	30(83.3%)	6(16.6%)	36	
36 to 45	23(76.6%)	7(23.3%)	30	
Total	70 (84.3%)	13(15.6%)	83	

Table 2: Parity & cervical carcinoma

Number of child	Cervical cancer N= 83		Total	Value of P
	No	Yes		
No children	11(91.6%)	1(8.4%)	12	0.11
1 to 2	23(82%)	5(18%)	28	
3 to 4	18(78%)	5(22%)	23	
Five	18(90%)	2(10%)	20	
Total	70(84.3%)	13(15.6%)	83	

Table 3: Symptoms duration

Symptoms in months	Cervical cancer N= 83		Total	Value of P
	No	Yes		
3 to 4	17(85%)	3(15%)	20	0.405
5 to 6	23(88%)	3(12%)	26	
7 to 10	18(81%)	4(19%)	22	
11 to 12	12(80%)	3(20%)	15	

## DISCUSSION

A total of 83 females with abnormal vaginal bleeding were studied for the diagnosis cervical carcinoma. We evaluated that 15.6% of the female had carcinoma. The results of our study are similar to the findings of Shah, Mahwish, et al.<sup>12</sup> They conducted a similarly study and reported 16% prevalence. Our study findings are not similar to the findings of Abu J et al.<sup>13</sup> that found that 19% of PCB patients had cervical cancer. This discrepancy could result from the fact that the present study included all patients with atypical vaginal bleeding, whereas the previously stated study only included individuals who experienced post-coital bleeding. Individuals who presented with any form of menorrhagia, postcoital bleeding, or intermenstrual bleeding were considered to have abnormal vaginal bleeding in the current research. Another research of similar kind revealed that 17 percent of women who reported with vaginal bleeding had cervical intraepithelial neoplasia.<sup>14</sup> In another research, only 2.2% of women who were sampled from individuals who presented with intermenstrual bleeding and/or postcoital bleeding had cervical cancer.<sup>15</sup> As a result, there are variations in the incidence rates of cervical cancer around the globe. The mean age in our study was 38.12 ± 4.33 years. A research conducted in India<sup>15</sup> that adopted a screening method to identify cervical cancer also discovered that women's patterns of age were comparable. The average age of the 4039 women in their sample was 39.07. A majority of participants (84%) in the research were between the ages of 30 and 49, but as it represented a screening study, postmenopausal women were also included, thus the age range was 30-65. Majority of the participants in the present research were between the ages of 26 and 45. This is significant because the differential diagnosis of vaginal bleeding shifts as age patterns alter, raising the possibility

of cervical cancer. A strong correlation between a woman's age and the prevalence of cancer of cervix was identified in the current research. While younger people had the lowest incidence of cervical cancer, older people were more afflicted. It represents a lower risk of cervical carcinoma since younger people have less parity.<sup>16</sup> According to the current study, the mean parity was 2.21 ± 1.67 children. Further, it was found that 24% of women had five children, which was the highest parity, while 14.4% of women had no kids, 33.7% had one or two children, and 27.7% had three or four children. Similar results were evaluated in the previous study conducted by Shah Mahwish et al.<sup>12</sup> Individuals who presented with symptoms that lasted longer were shown to have a higher incidence of cervical cancer cases (P value = 0.405) in our study. While several studies have examined the interval between a cervical cancer diagnosis and time, none have examined the correlation between time and cervical cancer incidence.<sup>17</sup> A routine Pap test screening may typically detect cervical cancer early. These tests need to be performed if a woman is over 30 and exhibiting signs like irregular vaginal bleeding. The fact that nearly eighty percent of cases are detected at an advanced clinical stage when the five-year survival rate is less than 40% explains the need of screening.<sup>18</sup>

## CONCLUSION

The study concluded that women with abnormal vaginal bleed had high frequency of cervical cancer (15%). Women who are younger and have lower parity are less likely to suffer from this condition.

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