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Effectiveness of breast cancer awareness programme in changing knowledge, attitude and practices among educated women in Raipur

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Breast cancer is a leading cause of mortality among women. Early detection and treatment leads to improved survival. Studies show that knowledge and perception of women about breast cancer directly influence their acceptance of screening and treatment. Majority of patients present late to the hospital because of lack of knowledge of early signs and symptoms of breast cancer. This was a study to evaluate the effectiveness of structured awareness programme on knowledge, attitude and practices regarding early detection and treatment of breast cancer among educated women in Raipur. The study subjects were 5000 women studying in various educational institutions of Raipur District. Information on their current knowledge attitude and practices regarding breast cancer was collected by pretest questionnaire followed by an awareness program in which information was given on breast cancer, its signs and symptoms, misconceptions, screening methods, preventive measures and treatment modalities and the correct technique of breast self-examination. Then post-test questionnaire was administered. Significant improvement was noted in the knowledge, attitude and practices score of participants after administration of structured awareness programme. There is need to spread awareness among the women about early detection and treatment of breast cancer.

Biography

Anjali Pal has completed her MBBS and MD in Social and Preventive Medicine at King Georges Medical University, Lucknow. She is currently serving as an Associate Professor in the Department of Community and Family Medicine at All India Institute of Medical Sciences at Raipur, India.

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