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Role of the Bethesda system in cervical cancer screening: A 5 year study

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Cervical cancer is the second most common type of cancer among women worldwide. Exfoliative cytology remains the mainstay for screening of pre-cancerous lesions. A comparative study of conventional Pap smear with revised Bethesda system in the detection of cervical intra-epithelial neoplasia was done over a period of 5 years study in the Jawaharlal Nehru Medical College, Aligarh. Total of 318 premalignant lesions were noted, most commonly were in the fourth decade. Conventional system reported around 18.3% of premalignant lesions while it was 31.8% when reviewed by Bethesda system. The incidence of various pre-malignant lesions diagnosed were atypical squamous cells of undetermined significance (ASC-US) in 2.3% of cases, atypical squamous cells, cannot exclude HSIL (ASC-H) in 0.4%, low grade squamous intraepithelial lesions (LSIL) in 18.7%, high grade squamous intraepithelial lesions (HSIL) in 6%, atypical glandular cells of undetermined significance (AGUS) in 3.5% and atypical glandular cells favoring neoplasia in 0.9% cases. However, no premalignant glandular lesions were reported in conventional reporting of cervical cancer. The revised Bethesda system for cervical cancer has proven to be more valuable in detecting pre-malignant lesions especially glandular lesions which are usually missed on conventional reporting.

Biography

Sadaf Haiyat is currently pursuing MD Pathology from Jawaharlal Nehru Medical College, Aligarh Muslim University, India. She has published 5 papers in reputed national and international journals.

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