Title: Education Effects on Knowledge, Attitude and Practice of Female Students of Yazd City Regarding Skin Cancer

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Abstract: Introduction: Cancer is the third cause of mortality in industrialized countries. Skin cancer is the most prevalent kind of cancer. One of the most important strategies of WHO in controlling cancers is improving the knowledge of people. Also because dissemination of information about basic diseases is considered as health education, changing attitudes and practices are the main aims of health education. One of the important factors in the prophylaxis of the diseases is educating the students at risk or those who play an important role in controlling the problem. The aim of this study was to assess the effects of education on the Knowledge, Attitude and Practice (KAP) of female students regarding to skin cancer in Yazd.

Material and Methods: In this self-controlled quasi-experimental intervention study, Random sampling was employed to recruit 75 female students of the universities throughout the city of Yazd. Data were gathered by a researcher-made questionnaire comprising of demographic characteristics, and questions related to knowledge, attitude and performance. Validity and reliability of the scales were approved. Data were analyzed using descriptive and inferential statistics.

Results: Knowledge and attitude were statistically significant predictors of Behavior and were accounted for 25.1% of the variation. After implementing the educational program, the respondents' knowledge, attitude and practice were significantly increased.

Conclusion: Considering the higher priority of prevention in proportion to treatment specially regarding cancers, implementing such an educational programs which results in improving knowledge, increasing the susceptibility of society and employing perfect and cost-effective strategies to prevent and control skin cancer is necessary.