

OP.008 Women's perception of risk factors and prevention of cervical cancer: ethical issues and the importance in nursing education

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Background: Cervical cancer (CC) has a considerable impact on public health worldwide, since it implies changes in the quality of life of women. Cervical cancer screening (CCS) is an added value for all, as there is strong scientific evidence that this type of cancer can be prevented if detected early through the CCS and, if treated in the early stages, can even be curable. It also provides for adequate referral of various disease situations to specialized centers. Since many women did not appear in this consultation, this study is considered highly relevant. A non-experimental, qualitative, cross-sectional, exploratory and descriptive study was carried out. Research questions: The study's research questions are: What is the meaning attributed by women to CCS? What is the meaning attributed by women to the nurse's contribution to the CCS consultation?

Objectives: To understand the meaning attributed by women to CCS consultation; understanding the perception of women about the risk of cervical cancer; understand the meaning that women attribute to nursing care, of which they are targeted in the CCS consultation.

Methods: The sample consists of 20 women enrolled in a unit, belonging to the Local Health Unit of a central region of Portugal. To select the participants, we used the non-probabilistic type of sampling for convenience. Criteria for inclusion did not attend at least one CCS consultation. The procedure of identification of the participants, was through research through computer system, were contacted and invited to participate in the study, this process ended when the desired number of participants was reached. Data collection: performed by questionnaire (sociodemographic data) and interview recording of the verbatim. All ethical principles have been fulfilled. To analyze the data, the assumptions presented by Bardin (2016), using NVivo version 11, were taken into account.

Results: The women's testimonies were grouped into 10 categories. By the dimension of the study, only two categories are presented: women's perception about CC risk factors; perception of CC prevention requirements.

Conclusion: There are multiple reasons for women not to attend the CCS consultation, cultural aspects are at the genesis of different perceptions, decisions, behaviors, attitudes and feelings experienced by women. It is intended that the understanding, for the creation of favorable conditions and culturally sensitive interventions that translate into the increasing adhesion of women to the CCS consultation, so that they are experiences of learning and well-being for the woman/family/community.

Keywords: perception; screening; cervix cancer; nursing care.