The Relationship Between Health Literacy and The Theory of Planned Behavior on Breast Cancer Screening Programs Among Rural Women in Roshtkhar, Iran 2015

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Abstract

Breast cancer is considered as a cause of death in women. Patients with breast cancer in our country are about 10 years younger than similar patients in western countries. This study was conducted to determine the relationship between Theory of Planned Behavior and Health Literacy by Breast Cancer Screening programs in Rural women in Roshtkhar. This cross-sectional study was conducted on 250 women above age 35 years who were selected by stratified sampling method from population covered by Rural health centers of Roshtkhar. Each of 1 to 7 health centers of Roshtkhar was considered as a class. Cases were selected and studied from each class, proportional to the number of covered women of that health center. Data were collected by self-report questionnaire (functional health literacy and breast cancer) and analyzed using SPSS software version 16 and statistical, Kruskal Wallis Test, Spearman correlation coefficient, and General linear Model. P value less than 0.05 was considered significance. The mean age of participants was 39.6±4.84 years. The Kruskal Wallis Test was shown a significant relationship between Breast Screening programs and Health Literacy( =16.13, p<0.001). Women with adequate health literacy levels were more likely to report to have ever had a Breast Screening programs, compared to women with inadequate or marginally adequate functional health literacy levels. Inadequate/ marginal functional health literacy is strongly associated with lower Breast Screening programs. General linear Model had predicted 40% of variance in the performance of breast cancer screening programs by Theory of Planned Behavior. Large improvements in breast cancer control in this population may come from either basic advances in health literacy or tailored approaches by Theory of Planned Behavior to help women with low literacy navigate local health care systems.

Keywords: Breast Cancer, Health Literacy, Screening, Theory of Planned Behavior, Roshtkhar

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