

**UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA**

**PAP SMEAR AWARENESS AMONG UITM KAMPUS  
BERTAM WOMEN STAFF**

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## **ABSTRACT**

### **PAP SMEAR AWARENESS AMONG UITM KAMPUS BERTAM WOMEN STAFF**

Pap smear awareness among the society is still in concern since previous study had proven that most of the women that participated in their study show little to no knowledge on pap smear. This has become a worry since pap smear is a screening test for cervical cancer which is the one of the most prevalent cancers worldwide. Thus, this study is conducted to assess the pap smear awareness among UiTM Kampus Bertam women staff. This single cross-sectional study was done among UiTM Kampus Bertam women staff aged between 25 to 60 years old. A total of 10 respondents were participated in this study, 100% of them know that pap smear is a test done for screening cervical cancer and collect cells from the cervix and examines under a microscope to detect pre-cancerous and cancerous cell. In addition, 100% of the respondents also know that good health literacy influence people to do pap smear, meanwhile only 30% of them had been approached by healthcare provider to influence the to do pap smear and 40% never had been approached by the healthcare provider. The total of 80% respondent felt that pap smear test is beneficial to them and thinking of doing pap smear as a wise idea. Most of the respondents thought that pap smear is important. However, only 50% of them found that pap smear is an interesting test that they might do. Some of the factors that cause them to have knowledge on pap smear are still lacking and unknown. However, good health literacy seems to be one of the factors that influence the participants to do pap smear. Majority of the staff had awareness on pap smear and had a thought that pap smear is beneficial to them. More awareness campaign on pap smear should be held for the staff to wider their knowledge and sponsorship by the government in covering the cost for pap smear for the staff should be done.

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# CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Introduction/ Overview

Will all women who have a career and extensive knowledge in the medical field undergo pap smear screening? If not, is the reason why some do not carry out the screening influenced by certain factors? These questions will be answered with scientific answers based on qualitative and quantitative studies. Answer these questions, might give a shocked society. However, let us focus on the purpose of this study to know the level of UiTM Kampus Bertam women staff's knowledge, awareness, beliefs, and attitudes regarding cervical cancer screening which is Pap Smear. The answer came within sight: A few factors influence some women not to do the screening. Although Pap smear screening is effective, screening participation is still low in Malaysia [1].

Cervical cancer is one of the most prevalent cancers worldwide and ranks second most frequently among women in Malaysia [2]. Cervical cancer is preventable if screening, treatment, and check-ups are conducted properly by doing a Papanicolaou (Pap) smear test [3].

In Malaysia, cervical cancer screening is offered to all sexually active women between the ages of 30 and 65, and the coverage target is 40% as a start has been held in 4 states: Kuala Lumpur, Putrajaya, Kedah, and Kelantan. Pap smear coverage showed an increasing trend from 23.5% (2014) to 26.3% (2017), then decreased to 23% (2018) and increased again to 24.5% (2019). The detection rate of positive cases of cervical cancer showed an increase from 1.14% (2018) to 1.20% (2019) [4].