



اَللّٰهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ عَلٰى نَبِيِّنَا مُحَمَّدٍ
 UNIVERSITI
 TEKNOLOGI
 MARA

FACULTY OF MEDICINE UiTM

MED BULL'

NO.3/2024



eISSN 2805-4628



9 7 7 2 8 0 5 4 6 2 0 0 0

Menyerlahkan Potensi
 Membentuk Masa Hadapan



CERVICAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH 2024 - PREVENTION STARTS RIGHT AWAY

By: Dr. Nurulhuda binti Ahmad Sani



The commencement of a substantial campaign in January is intended to increase awareness of cervical cancer, a condition that impacts thousands of women worldwide.

The cause of cervical cancer is recurrent infections with specific strains of the human papillomavirus, and the disease progresses silently until it reaches an advanced stage.

Cervical cancer rose to become the fourth most frequent cancer worldwide, after lung, colorectal, and breast cancer. It is the third most common among women in Malaysia. In 2020, it claimed at least 300,000 deaths, and the number is rising yearly.

A comprehensive, coordinated, and aspirational plan has been established to direct the eradication of cervical cancer. In May 2018, the WHO Director-General announced a global call for action to eliminate cervical cancer, in which all countries must reach and maintain an incidence rate of cervical cancer below 4 per 100,000 women.

To shine a light on cervical cancer and its elimination strategies, our Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology (O&G) organized a month-long exhibition located at Hospital Al Sultan Abdullah (HASA) Main Lobby Zam Zam and O&G Clinic, targeting healthcare workers, professionals, patients, and the hospital's visitors.



An awareness talk at the Clinico-pathological Conference on January 31, 2024, was held as a collective responsibility to illuminate the path toward early detection, intervention, and comprehensive management. A diverse line-up of speakers includes Dr. Thara Nur Atikah, Dr. Nurulhuda Ahmad Sani from O&G, Dr. Shamsiah (radiology), Dr. Nor Salmah Bakar, and Dr. Muhammad Afif Munshi from pathology, Dr. Harissa (oncology), and Ms. Vivian from MSD, each offering unique perspectives and insights into cervical cancer management.

In conjunction with this imperative cause, the ROSE Foundation and Etiqa Cares offered free HPV DNA screening, underscoring the importance of early detection and prevention. About 100 women, including patients, visitors, and front-line staff, took part in cervical HPV DNA screening on February 22, 2024. We hope this collaboration will continue in jointly eradicating cervical cancer.



Acknowledging that cervical cancer is a condition that can be prevented is crucial. We can significantly lessen its prevalence and impact by raising awareness, supporting routine screening, and advocating for immunization.

Regardless of one's socioeconomic status or location, every woman is entitled to an opportunity for life-saving screening and preventative care. Three important pillars and their matching goals are necessary to achieve that goal. Each country should meet the 90-70-90 targets by 2030 to get on the path to eliminate cervical cancer within the next century.



Collectively, we can effect change and guarantee a future in which no woman endures this preventable affliction. Let us unite in the battle against cervical cancer, aspiring for a world in which every woman can exist devoid of this debilitating illness.

Now is the time to act to eliminate cervical cancer as a public health problem. By providing access to screening services, the O&G Department is empowering women to take charge of their health and well-being. Vaccination and routine screening facilitate the early identification of HPV infections and permit prompt treatments, hence diminishing the risk of cervical cancer.

During Cervical Cancer Awareness Month, let us renew our dedication to advancing women's health and well-being. Let us endorse activities such as awareness seminars, immunizations, and screening programs and collaborate to eliminate cervical cancer permanently.

