

Knowledge of Cervical Cancer Prevention among Vaccinated Female University Students in the Era of Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Vaccination: What have we Achieved in Malaysia?

Chew Kah Teik, Yulianty Arifuddin, Ng Beng Kwang, Muhamad Razif Mohd Razali, Chan Fong Sing, Nur Syahirah Aznan, Noor Amalina Suahni, Siti Intan Atikah Ahamad Tajuddin, Mohamad Nasir Shafie

Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia Medical Center

ABSTRACT

Background and Aims: HPV vaccine was introduced in 2010 as a part of the national vaccination programme in Malaysia. This study aimed to assess the perception and knowledge of cervical cancer prevention among fully vaccinated female university students in the era of HPV vaccination. **Materials and Methods:** A total of 384 fully vaccinated female students were recruited and had a face to face interview with a set of standard questionnaires to evaluate their perception and knowledge towards cervix cancer prevention. The total knowledge score was 18 and was categorized into poor (score ≤ 5), moderate (score 6-10) and good (score ≥ 11). **Results:** Mean score for knowledge of cervical cancer prevention was 8.24/18 (SD \pm 3.85), with 170 students (44.3%) scoring moderate knowledge level. Students' perceived seriousness and susceptibility of HPV infection, and perceived benefit of HPV vaccination correlated well with knowledge of cervical cancer prevention. The main source of information was schools, followed by internet. As they had been vaccinated, two main reasons for their acceptance were self-health consciousness and free of charge of the vaccination. However, both factors did not correlate with the knowledge of cervical cancer prevention. Besides that, misconception still occurred regarding the need of Pap smear after HPV vaccination among students. **Conclusion:** Knowledge of cervical cancer prevention is average among our fully vaccinated female university students. Although there has been improvement of awareness of HPV vaccination, there is still a need for continued health education to improve the perception and knowledge about HPV infection and cervical cancer prevention among young adults in our community.

Caesarean Scar Pregnancy: Treatment with Bilateral Uterine Artery Chemoembolization

Dr Kaamini Planisamy¹, Dr Aruku Naidu²

¹Hospital Raja Permaisuri Bainun Ipoh/Hospital Universiti Sains Malaysia, ²Hospital Raja Permaisuri Bainun, Ipoh

ABSTRACT

Objective: To report the first case of caesarean scar pregnancy managed using bilateral uterine artery embolization with methotrexate (MTX) and gelfoam in Malaysia and its outcome, as an alternative non-surgical fertility-sparing method of management. **Method:** A 25-year-old, G2P1 @ 13 weeks during initial presentation, with a confirmed diagnosis of caesarean scar pregnancy, was initially managed with systemic MTX injections (50mg/m²) - 2 doses given, 6 weeks apart. However, despite reducing levels of serum beta-human chorionic gonadotrophin (HCG), the caesarean scar pregnancy formed a vascular mass with increasing Doppler uptake. Patient was then managed with bilateral uterine artery MTX (50 mg/m²) embolization by interventional radiologist and was followed up monthly with serial transabdominal ultrasound scan and serum beta-HCG. **Result:** Serial transabdominal ultrasound scans of this patient over 3 months following uterine artery chemoembolization showed marked reduction in vascularity with reduced Doppler uptake of the caesarean scar pregnancy. However, the size of the caesarean scar pregnancy remained static. No major complications resulting from the uterine artery chemoembolization was observed. **Conclusion:** In the event of rare cases of caesarean scar pregnancies, uterine artery chemoembolization seems to be a safe and effective method of treatment and should be considered as one of the options of non-surgical methods of management especially in cases to preserve fertility.