

Sociodemographic and clinical profile of cervical cancer patients in a tertiary hospital in Nueva Ecija, Philippines from January 2020 to December 2022: A retrospective cross-sectional study

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: Cervical cancer is a rampant but preventable malignancy in the Philippines. Developing knowledge and awareness of the sociodemographic and clinical profile associated with cervical cancer will help in the identification of women who need thorough screening and surveillance. Subsequently, this will promote better clinical outcomes and improve the survival of women potentially at risk for cervical cancer. **Objectives:** To determine the prevalence, sociodemographic and clinical profile of cervical cancer at a government tertiary hospital in Nueva Ecija, Philippines, from January 2020 to December 2022. **Materials and Methods:** A retrospective, descriptive cross-sectional study, which involved 199 records of cervical cancer patients. **Results:** Most patients were > 40 years old (75.38%) with a mean of 48.38, had a parity of < 7 (92.96%) with a mean of 3.73. They were mostly residing in rural areas (83.42%), married (63.32%), college undergraduates (74.87%), and non-smokers (84%). The majority (89.45%) had sexual partners of < 6 with a mean of 2.578, 89.45% had their coitarche at < 16 with a mean age of 18.17, 59.8% did not use combined oral contraceptive pills. Only 21.61% of patients had a history of cervical cancer screening, while almost all (99.5%) had no history of HPV vaccination. In terms of clinical profile, 62.31% had a histologic diagnosis of squamous cell carcinoma, 51.26% had stage III, and 59.8% had prior treatment. The majority (66.33%) had no other co-morbidities. However, if present, hypertension was the most common (15.58%). **Conclusion:** Cervical cancer is commonly diagnosed at an advanced age, married, college undergraduates, with a parity of 3 to 4, those who had coitarche at more than 16, with sexual partners of less than 6. No exposure to any screening method and HPV vaccinations are prone to such malignancy as well. Furthermore, cervical cancer is frequently identified when already in advanced stages, with a histologic type of squamous cell.