

# 21. The behavior of fertile women in rural areas

*by Ismi Rajiani*

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# The Behavior of Fertile Women in Rural Areas toward the Acetic Acid Visual Inspection

Aprina<sup>1</sup>, Leni Agustina<sup>2</sup>, Ismi Rajiani<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Nursing, Poltekkes Tanjungkarang, Indonesia, <sup>2</sup>Gadingrejo Health Clinic, Pringsewu, Lampung, Indonesia, <sup>3</sup>Department of Business Administration, STIAMAK Barunawati Surabaya, Indonesia

## ABSTRACT

**Background:** Most patients diagnosed with cervical cancer in Indonesia are at an advanced stage. Therefore, it is important to do early detection of cervical cancer. Maternal and Child Clinic at health clinics in Lampung stated that the coverage of acetic acid visual inspection test was smaller than the target of 10% per year. The purpose of this research was to know the risk factors related to the behavior of women of fertile age in acetic acid visual inspection test.

**Method:** This research was designed using analytic analysis with a cross-sectional approach. The study population was all fertile women who became the target of acetic acid visual inspection test at a health clinic in Pringsewu Regency, Lampung Province, Indonesia and the multiple logistic regression was employed to examine the relationship.

**Results:** Results of the test showed that the p-values of knowledge, attitude, family support, perception, and medics support were 0.002, 0.037, 0.037, 0.731, 0.9333 respectively on the behavior of women in a fertile age in acetic acid visual inspection test implying that knowledge variable is the most dominant variable.

**Keywords** - Acetic acid visual inspection, behavior, fertile age, risk factors

## INTRODUCTION

Cervical cancer is a malignant tumor that grows inside the cervix or an area of the female reproductive organs. Cervical cancer is characterized by the unusual growth of cells in the cervix<sup>(1)</sup>. The effects of cervical cancer are bleeding, anemia, abortion, and premature partus if suffered by pregnant women, abnormal vaginal discharge, and immun<sup>13</sup> system disorders. It was estimated that there were 528,000 new cases of cervical cancer and 266,000 deaths from cervical cancer. The high incidence of cervical cancer in Indonesia was because most patients diagnosed with cervical cancer were at an advanced stage<sup>(2)</sup>. This becomes a significant

reason for the early detection of cervical cancer. The early detection of cervical cancer by acetic acid visual inspection test method in Pringsewu Regency, Lampung Province in 2016 was 169 people (0.2%) from 84,449 women aged 30-50 years with positive results of 17 people (10.1%). In 2015, coverage of early detection of cervical cancer by acetic acid visual inspection test method in Pringsewu Regency, Lampung Province was equal to 158 people (0.19%) from 82,477 women age 30-50 years with positive results equal to 15 people (9.5%). The low participation of women in a fertile period in conducting acetic acid visual inspection test at health clinics in Pringsewu Regency, Lampung Province was due to the low knowledge of fertile women on acetic acid visual inspection test. This was because the majority of mothers are working; thus they were less active to seek for information about acetic acid visual inspection test. The lack of knowledge will affect the attitude of the fertile women who consider the acetic acid visual inspection test less essential to do as well as change the

### Corresponding Author:

Aprina

Department of Nursing, Poltekkes Tanjungkarang, Indonesia, email: aprinamurhan@yahoo.co.id

perception of fertile women in giving meaning about the importance of acetic acid visual inspection test<sup>(3)</sup>. The lack of participation in acetic acid visual inspection test is also related to support of medics and family in motivating fertile women to perform acetic acid visual inspection tests. The purpose of this research was to know the risk factors related to the behavior of women of fertile age in acetic acid visual inspection test

**METHODOLOGY**

This research was a quantitative research type. The design of analytic research with cross-sectional approach was used to find the risk factor analysis related to the behavior of fertile women in acetic acid visual inspection test. The study was conducted in March until August 2017. The research was done at health clinics in Pringsewu Regency, Lampung. The sample size was 361 samples taken by quota sampling<sup>(4)</sup>.

Knowledge data collection tool was a sheet of instrument test. Attitude, perception, and family support data collection tool in this study was a questionnaire that contains 10 questions using a Likert scale. Each question item has 4 alternative answers which were: strongly disagree (1), do not agree (2), agree (3), and strongly agree (4). Medics support data collection tool was questionnaire containing 10 questions which have 2 alternatives “yes” (0) and “no” (1) answers. To get the score 2 option score ranging from 0-1 were employed where score 0 for the response of yes and score 1 for no response. The multivariate test was done using multiple logistic regression tests<sup>(5)</sup>.

**RESULTS**

Table 1 shows the frequency distribution of the behavior of fertile women in acetic acid visual inspection test. Based on Table 1, it is known that most fertile women did not do the acetic acid visual inspection test.

**Table 1: The behavior of fertile women in acetic acid visual inspection test**

Variable	Frequency	Percentage%
The behavior of Fertile Women		
Doing acetic acid visual inspection test	97	26.9
Not doing acetic acid visual inspection test	264	73.1
<b>Knowledge</b>		
Good	93	25,8
Less good	268	74,2
<b>Attitude</b>		
Positive	127	35.2
Negative	234	64.8
<b>Perception</b>		
Good	134	37.1
Less good	361	62.9
<b>Family support</b>		
Good	113	31.3
Poor	248	68.7
<b>Medical support</b>		
Good	219	60.7
Poor	142	39.3

Table 2 shows the correlation between the variables and the behavior of fertile women in acetic acid visual inspection test. Based on the results on Table 2, it can be inferred that the p-values of knowledge, attitude, family support, perception, and medical support were 0.002, 0.037, 0.037, 0.731, 0.933 respectively on the behavior of fertile women in acetic acid visual inspection test. This means that knowledge, attitude, and family support

have a significant correlation with the response of fertile women in acetic acid visual inspection test while perception and medical support have no significant relationship. Table 2 also shows that knowledge variable is the most dominant variable related to the behavior of fertile women in acetic acid visual inspection test at the health centers of Pringsewu Regency in 2017 with OR obtained of 2.263.

**Table 2: Correlation between the variables and the behavior of fertile women in acetic acid visual inspection test**

Variable	Category	Fertile women behavior in doing acetic acid visual inspection test				p-value	Odds Ratio
		Do the test		Do not do the test			
		n	%	n	%		
Knowledge	Good	37	39.8	56	60.2	0.002	2.263
	Less good	60	22.4	208	77.6		
	Total	97	26.9	264	73.1		
Attitude	Positive	43	33.9	84	66.1	0.037	1.714
	Negative	54	23.1	180	76.9		
	Total	97	26.9	264	73.1		
Perception	Good	38	28.4	96	71.6	0.713	-
	Less good	59	26.0	168	74.0		
	Total	97	26.9	264	73.1		
Family Support	Good	39	34.5	74	65.5	0.037	1.702
	Poor	58	23.4	190	76.6		
	Total	97	26.9	264	73.1		
Medical Support	Good	58	26.5	161	73.5	0.933	-
	Poor	39	27.5	103	72.5		
	Total	97	26.9	264	73.1		

Table 3 shows the interaction test of the predicted model factors. There is no interaction between knowledge variable with attitude variable, and there is no interaction between attitude variable with family support variable (Sig. omnibus = 0.548). Thus, the interaction between knowledge variables with attitude and attitude with family support should be excluded from the model.

**Table 3. Interaction test of the predicted model factors**

No	Variable	P- value	OR	Sig. omnibus
1	Knowledge	0.028	2.133	0.548
2	Attitude	0.037	1.025	
3	Family Support	0.032	1.156	
4	Knowledge with attitude	0.791	1.153	
5	Attitude with family support	0.214	1.915	

### DISCUSSIONS

The result of the research shows that the frequency distribution of the behavior of fertile women in acetic acid visual inspection test is higher in the category of not doing which is 264 people (73,1%). It means that there were more fertile women at Pringsewu Regency who did not perform acetic acid visual inspection test to detect cervical cancer early. The result of the research showed that the respondent behavior the less right category supporting previous research <sup>(6)</sup>. On the other hands, a study <sup>(1)</sup> on the description of the action of fertile women on early detection of cervical cancer in the hospitals of Ponorogo City, East Java Indonesia obtained results that respondents behaved positively <sup>(7)</sup>. According to the researchers, more fertile women in Pringsewu Regency did not do acetic acid visual inspection test because more respondents were less aware of acetic acid visual inspection test, so it affected fertile women behavior not to do acetic acid visual inspection test because they did not know the benefits obtained from acetic acid visual inspection test.

The results obtained that there was no significant relationship between knowledge with early detection of cervical cancer in line with the previous research <sup>(8)</sup>. Knowledge is the result of knowing and it occurred after people did sensing of a particular object through sight, hearing, smell, taste, and touch. Much of human knowledge <sup>(12)</sup> is obtained through the eyes and ears <sup>(9)</sup>. Knowledge is an impression in the human mind as a result of the use of five senses and different from beliefs, superstition, and misinformation <sup>(10)</sup>. Respondents who have imperfect knowledge about acetic acid visual test will act otherwise to perform acetic acid visual inspection test because the respondents are lack of understanding of

the purposes and advantages of the analysis.

<sup>(1)</sup> There was a relationship between attitude with the behavior of fertile women in the early detection of cervical cancer using the acetic acid method supporting the previous research <sup>(11)</sup>. The women's positive attitude will form a reasonable view that acetic acid visual inspection test needs to be done to prevent the occurrence of cervical cancer and have a response to decide to do acetic acid visual inspection test.

Perception is the process of recognition of objects (objects, people, ideas, symptoms and events) through the five senses so that it instantly gives meaning and value to an object by highlighting the peculiar nature of an object and the result of perception can in the form of different responses or ratings from individuals <sup>(12)</sup>. The p-value of understanding was 0.713, which means there was no significant relationship between perception with fertile women behavior in acetic acid visual inspection test. The respondent must recognize the object first, which is acetic acid visual inspection test, from the process of knowing through mass media, printed media, and information from health workers about the benefits of acetic acid visual inspection test. A proper perception of the acetic acid visual inspection test will affect the behavior to perform the analysis and vice versa. Fertile women who have poor understanding will influence the behavior of not doing the acetic acid visual inspection test. However, from the results of the study, more respondents do not know about acetic acid visual inspection test. The inability of respondents in identifying the test causes the respondent to do the test without any good perception of the test.

The family is an external factor that has a relationship or non-material support to others. Types of support can be emotional support, physical support, informational support, and awards or communication support. The existence of the family can provide a significant motivation in patients when patients have various problems of life pattern changes that are so complicated and saturated with all health programs <sup>(13)</sup>. Based on the results of the research, there was a significant relationship between family support to the behavior of fertile women in acetic acid visual inspection test with the p-value of 0.037. The value of OR was 1.726 which means that respondents with the right category family support have a chance 1.726 times greater to perform acetic acid visual inspection test than respondents with low-income family support category.

Health worker or medics is someone who is responsible for providing health services to individuals, families, and communities. There are two aspects of the quality of health services that need to be done at the health center that is quality of care and quality of service. Quality of care includes technical skills of health workers (doctors, midwives, nurses, or other paramedics) in establishing the diagnosis and providing care to the patient <sup>(14)</sup>. There is no significant relationship between the support of medics with the behavior of fertile women in acetic acid examination test with the p-value of 0.933. According to the researcher, there was no significant correlation between health officers support and fertile women behavior in doing acetic acid visual inspection test at Pringsewu Regency because health worker has tried as much as possible to support fertile women to perform acetic acid visual inspection test but most of the fertile women still do not do the test. This proved that there was no direct and significant <sup>11</sup> relation between the support of health workers and the behavior of fertile women in the acetic acid visual inspection test. However, this result is not in line with research <sup>4</sup> about the factors that affect the willingness of fertile women in doing early detection of cervical cancer. <sup>1</sup> The effect of a statistical test using chi-square showed that there was a significant correlation between health officers support (p-value of 0.023) with fertile women willingness in early detection of cervical <sup>(15)</sup>.

### CONCLUSION

The knowledge variable is the most dominant variable related to the behavior of fertile women in

the acetic acid visual inspection at health centers of Pringsewu Regency with OR value of 2.133. It means that respondents with the first category of knowledge have 2.133 greater opportunities for having behavior in performing acetic acid visual inspection test than respondents with the less right type of expertise. According to the researcher, the knowledge variable was the most dominant variable because fertile women's awareness in the examination of acetic acid visual inspection test did not arise suddenly, but it took time and media in the process of the emergence of such behavior and knowledge was an essential factor. Good knowledge possessed by fertile women will not only affect its behavior but also can affect other individuals because fertile women who already knew the benefit of acetic acid visual inspection test will inform others by doing interaction leading to other fertile women doing acetic acid visual inspection test.

**Ethical Clearance:** The Ministry of Health Polytechnic approved this research in Tanjung Karang, Indonesia. A research permit was requested from the local health authorities.

**Conflict of Interest:** Nil.

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