Women’s Global Health Initiative:
Prevention of Cervical Cancer Using Visual Inspection with Acetic Acid and Cryotherapy

Amy Moore, DNP, RN, FNP-C
Laura Opton, DHSc, RN, CNE
1. Discuss the global incidence, etiology, and pathophysiology of cervical dysplasia and cervical cancer.

- Definitions of cervical dysplasia and cervical cancer
- Etiology of cervical dysplasia and cervical cancer
- Pathophysiology of cervical dysplasia and cervical cancer
- Global incidence of cervical dysplasia and cervical cancer
- Steps involved in implementation of women’s health program in Nicaragua aimed at reducing risk of cervical cancer
Learning Outcomes

2. Describe the utilization of visual inspection of the cervix with acetic acid (VIA) and cryotherapy in low resource countries.

- Current strategies identified in the literature to target reduction of cervical dysplasia and cervical cancer globally in low resource countries
- Explanation of the VIA process
- Explanation of cryotherapy process
- Patient follow up
- Database tracking
Definitions, Etiology, and Pathophysiology

Cervical Dysplasia

- Abnormal cells on cervix (pre-cancerous)
- Mild to severe
- Untreated $\rightarrow$ high risk of cancer
- Strongly associated with HPV, $\uparrow$ incidence for smokers

Cervical Cancer

- Abnormal cells spread deeper into cervix or other tissues/organs
- HPV causes most cervical cancer...environment & lifestyle choices play a role
Cervical Cancer Statistics

- Cervical Cancer
  - Risks
  - Diagnosis
  - Death rate
- HPV Incidence
- HPV Types
  - Low Grade Lesions
  - High Grade Lesions
  - Cervical Cancer Lesions

International Union Against Cancer 2010.
Strategies to Decrease Cervical Cancer

- Pap Smear
- Advantages
- Disadvantages
Strategies to Decrease Cervical Cancer

- Visual Inspection with Acetic Acid
- Cryotherapy
  - Methods
  - Efficacy
Partnerships

• Stakeholders
• Gatekeepers
• Policy Makers
Partnerships - Women’s Health in Jinotega

- Logistics
- Safety
- Networking
- Community Health Workers

Misión Para Cristo

- Clinic Sites
- Training Topics
- Policies
- University

Ministry of Health

- Administration
- Office of Global Health
- Resources

TTUHSC
Health Care Needs

• Infant/Maternal Mortality
• Cervical Cancer
• Pediatric Assessment
• Community Health Care Worker Education
• Nursing Education
Women’s Health Initiative in Jinotega

- Overview of Goals
  - Partner with Ministry of Health (MINSA) to set goals and targets – decrease cases of HPV and cervical cancer
  - Sustainability – train health care workers in Jinotega

- Pap Smears/VIA/Cryotherapy
  - Pap smear screenings
  - VIA screenings
  - Cryotherapy treatment

- Education
  - Train health care workers
  - Train nurses/physicians

- Re-evaluate
Women’s Health Initiative in Jinotega

Challenges

- Changes in Political Officials - Minister of Health
- Patient records and data collection
- Inventory and storage of supplies in Nicaragua between trips
Future Plans

• Policies and procedures
• Data collection
• Expansion of VIA training
• Replication of services in other countries
References


