

Abstract

This study examined Chinese women's attitudes and beliefs towards Papanicolaou (Pap) test and the association between these attitudes and women's undertaking of Pap screening. The influence of several health constructs on Pap test adherence was also investigated. A total of 125 Chinese women in Hong Kong participated in the study. Over half of the participants were adherent to regular Pap tests. Results revealed that adherent women had higher perceived pros as well as norms, and lower perceived cons towards Pap smear, while they had similar levels of perceived risk of cervical cancer. Logistic regression analysis indicated the significance of perceived cons in predicting Pap smear compliance as well as future screening intentions. Potential factors contributing to the perceptions of barriers were also identified using hierarchical regression analysis. Findings of the study are of practical significance as they give insights on how to promote women's Pap smear screening.