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Diabetes and Cancer. How far off cancer-screening uptake among female diabetic patient?

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Abstract

Background: A link between diabetes and the predisposition to certain cancers such as colon cancer, breast, pancreatic has been established during the last decade. However, the information on cancer screening uptake among diabetes were understudied.

Objective: To identify the cancer screening uptake rate among The Malaysian Cohort (TMC) diabetic participants.

Methods: A cross-sectional study was conducted from July 2017 until March 2020 that involved 905 female diabetic participants from the Malaysian Cohort, aged between 35-65 years old.

Results: Out of 905 diabetic TMC female participants, 63.5% were reported to take Pap smear screening test, 46.7% took mammogram test, 54.7% took clinical breast examination (CBE), 49.6% took breast-self-examination (BSE) and 26.3% took immunochemical faecal occult blood test (iFOBT). These uptakes were higher than general population, which indicated 22% in Pap smear, 3.6-30.9% in mammogram, 53.3% in CBE and 47.2% in BSE, respectively. However, only iFOBT uptake rate for general population was higher than in diabetic patient (79.6%). Among those who took iFOBT test, 14.7% had a positive results which higher than in general population (13.1%). Although lower colonoscopy compliance rate (31.4%) was showed among diabetic patient compared to 52.7% in general population, the CRC detection rate was higher (9.1%) compared to general population (0.27%).

Conclusion: These results imply that it is important for those with diabetes to go for cancer screening test as recommended by ADA guidelines.

Keywords (up to five): Cancer screening, diabetes, The Malaysian Cohort, Asian population

Abbreviations (up to five): TMC- The Malaysian Cohort; CBE- Clinical Breast Examination; BSE- Breast-self examination; iFOBT- immunochemical faecal occult blood test; CRC- colorectal cancer.

Conflicts of Interest: We declare that there is no conflict of interest that could be perceived as prejudicing the impartiality of the research reported

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