



Research Article

KNOWLEDGE AND SEXUAL PRACTICE ABOUT THE HUMAN PAPILLOMAVIRUS IN WOMEN FROM THE PROSPERA PROGRAM IN ZOTOLTITLAN, GUERRERO

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: HPV is a sexually transmitted disease that affects a high percentage of young women around the world, whose ages fluctuate between 15 and 35 years. **Objective:** To determine the level of knowledge and sexual practice about the human papillomavirus in women from the prospera program in Zotoltiltan, Guerrero. **Methodology:** The focus of the study is quantitative, cross-descriptive and analytical. 1 instrument of 48 items divided into 6 sections was applied: general data, knowledge of HPV, sexuality, use of contraceptive methods, nutrition, lifestyle habits and hygiene to 248 women between 15 and 50 years of age, the SPSS program version 23 was used. **Results:** Regarding the level of knowledge about HPV, it was found that 19.7% have a deficient level, 52.8% regular being the highest percentage and 27.4% maintain a good knowledge. A relationship was found between the level of education and knowledge about the human papillomavirus ($\chi^2 .020$), as well as an association with the age at which the first sexual intercourse was ($\chi^2 .014$). **Conclusion:** The women of the prospera program of the Zotoltiltan Guerrero community health center maintain a poor level of knowledge about HPV. Regarding the relationship between the sociodemographic data, there is a significant association between the knowledge of HPV and the level of study, as well as the age of the first sexual intercourse.

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INTRODUCTION

The Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) is one of the causes of morbidity and mortality in women in the world. Its most common viral infection is in the reproductive system, sexually active people are exposed to contracting these infections, this being a public health problem worldwide.

According to some authors such as Medina, Myriam Lucrecia * Medina, Marcelo Gabriel * Merino, Luis Antonio (2014) affirms that women's perceptions regarding not undergoing the HPV study were due to fear or lack of knowledge, accompanied in addition to the shame that her genitals were seen and touched by another man other than her partner in this case referred to the doctor who performs the Pap smear for the timely detection of HPV. On the contrary, others downplayed

the study as they considered themselves at low or almost zero risk because they only maintained an active sexual life with their partner, forgetting that their partner could well have coital sexual relations at the same time with other women.

Previous studies have been carried out to know the perception of life in women infected with Human Papilloma Virus considering perception as: the ability to receive through the senses, images, impressions or external sensations and understand or know something, where in a way Globally, it refers to the fact that women change their perception notably because they now experience fear of developing cervical cancer, apprehension about coital sexual relations and anguish about their future.

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Since there is fear, it is now when the interest in taking actions for their well-being arises, thus establishing the interest in taking care of themselves.

Which is one of the main causes of death and potentially lost years, as well as anal and penile cancer in men, among other events that affect the health-disease process of people.

Human Papillomavirus (HPV) infection is a sexually transmitted disease (STI), which affects a high percentage of young women around the world, mainly women living in developing countries, whose ages fluctuate between 15 and 35 years. Although HPV (Human Papilloma Virus) infection is widely spread in the world, it is an infection still unknown by the population at risk, which, associated with various cultural factors, makes its prevention and early diagnosis difficult, thus becoming one of the most frequent sexually transmitted infections in the world, according to the World Health Organization (WHO), around 300 million women under the age of 25 carry genital infections due to this virus. Inadequate information on the risk that is run with the precocious initiation of sexual relations, promiscuity, and other risk factors, have brought with it an increase in the appearance of the Human Papilloma Virus, considered a public health problem in this country causing thousands of deaths a year, due to its high oncogenic potential, causing cervical cancer. Regarding prevalence of ages; from 15 to 25 years, it has a prevalence of 30-40%. Then it is followed by a marked decrease, staying in ages 25 to 40 at 3-10%. It is estimated that 60-75% of the population that maintains an active sexual activity is infected by some type of genital HPV, with 99.7% being high-risk infections causing cervical tumors. Annually approximately 500,000 new cases of cervical cancer are detected, 80% of cases in developing countries being related to AC of the anus and rectum. Addressing the issue of HPV is of utmost importance because it constitutes not only a public health problem in our country but also worldwide. The Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) is one of the causes of morbidity and mortality in women around the world.

According to estimates made by the World Health Organization (WHO) it says that Cervical Cancer (CCU) is the third most common, caused mainly by the Human Papilloma Virus (HPV), the most frequent oncogenic genotypes being the 16 and 18. They cause 80% of cancers (CCU) and are the third leading cause of death in women. According to the international organization, each year they count 528,000 new cases. (Ochoa, 2014)

This research is of crucial importance since in recent years the prevalence rate of Human Papillomavirus (HPV) has increased, The World Health Organization (WHO) indicates that around 300 million women under 25 years of age carry genital infections due to this virus and that it is currently considered a public health problem due to its relationship with some sexually transmitted infections and with various types of cancers; among which is cervical cancer, which is the fourth most common cancer worldwide. Generally, HPV infection is asymptomatic, because our immune system inactivates the virus, which happens in 90% of people, making it difficult to detect an early diagnosis.

The main risk factor for acquiring a human papillomavirus infection is ignorance or lack of sexual education to reduce the spread of HPV.

METHODOLOGY

The design was quantitative, descriptive and cross-sectional, it was carried out at the ZotoltilanMártir de Cuilapan Health Center, Guerrero, the study period was January-February 2020, the total population was 300 women enrolled in the prospera program of 15 to 50 years of age from the community of Zotoltilan Guerrero, the sample was at convenience and only participated 248 women who attended the day of the application of the survey.

The data collection was carried out through the questionnaire applied to the women of the prospera program of the community of Zotoltilan Guerrero called Knowledge about the Human Papilloma Virus, which was designed by the authors Miriam Evelin García López and Dr. Georgina Contreras Landgrave (2018), said questionnaire was validated at "Expert judgment", taking into account the evaluation of 6 judges, experts in the research topic (Knowledge of Human Papillomavirus and its preventive measures).

The questionnaire consists of 48 items and is divided into 4 sections: Sociodemographic data with 8 questions, knowledge about the human papillomavirus (HPV) with 11 questions, sexuality and use of contraceptive methods with 17 questions and finally nutrition, lifestyle habits and hygiene with 12 questions.

To determine the level of knowledge, the Likert scale was used in which 11 questions were taken into account, which were measured in the following values:

- 5 Totally agree
- 4 Agree
- 3 Indifferent
- 2 Disagree
- 1 Strongly disagree

Thus, obtaining a minimum score of 11 and a maximum of 55 later, the following scale was obtained.

Level of knowledge about Human Papillomavirus		
	Score	Assessment
Q1-Q2	11-33	Deficient
Q2-Q3	34-45	Regular
Q3-Q4	46-55	Good

The presentation of the findings was made in statistical tables, graphs, percentages, frequencies, which served to make the analysis and interpretation of the results obtained. Pearson's CHI² test and a significance level of 0.05 were used to determine the relationship between the variables.

The information obtained was captured and processed in the statistical package SPSS version 23.0 and the Excel program was also used to make the graphs.

RESULTS

It was observed that the women had a minimum age range of 15 years, a maximum of 50. The most prevalent ages are from 26 to 35 years, obtaining 50.8%, 57.7% of the women are married, with respect to the most prevalent level of study is the basic level with 78.2%, 99.2% are dedicated to work of the home and the majority of those surveyed profess the Catholic religion with 87.9%.

Table N ° 1 Sociodemographic Data

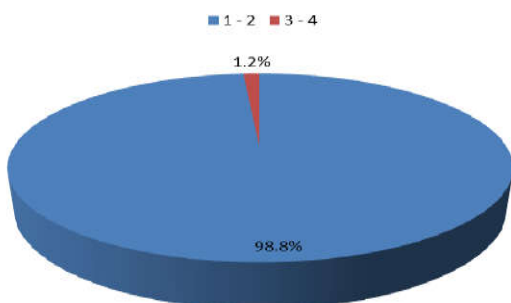
Age	Frequency	Percentage
15-25 years	48	19.45%
26-35 years	126	50.8%
36-45 years	73	29.4%
46-50	1	.4%
Civil Status		
Married	143	57.7%
Free union	95	38.3%
Single	6	38.3%
Widow	3	2.4%
Divorced	1	.4%
Scholarship		
without studies	49	19.8%
Basic	194	78.2%
Medium Superior Level	5	2%
Occupation		
Work	2	.8%
Housework	246	99.2%
Religion		
Catholic	218	87.9%
Christian	29	11.7%
Judia	1	.4%

Source: Survey on knowledge of HPV in women of the ProsperaProgram of the health center of Zotoltitlan Gro; February 2020.

Graph N ° 1 Number of Sexual Partners

Regarding the number of sexual partners, 98.8% have had 1-2 sexual partners and the remaining percentage of 1.2% corresponds to 3-4 partners.

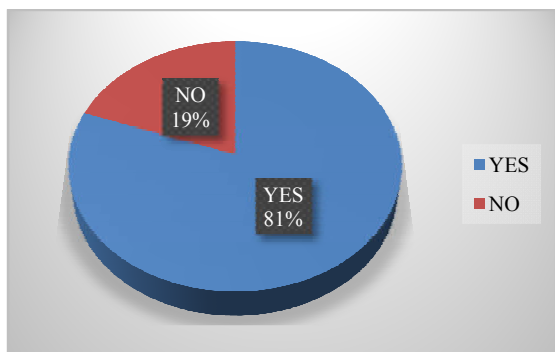
This indicates that promiscuity would not be a determinant that predisposes HPV since the highest percentage indicates having only one sexual partner.



Source: Survey on knowledge of HPV in women of the ProsperaProgram of the health center of Zotoltitlan Gro; February 2020.

Graph N ° 2 Use of Contraceptive Method

According to the results obtained, 80.6% mentioned using a contraceptive method and the remaining 19.4% said they did not use any.

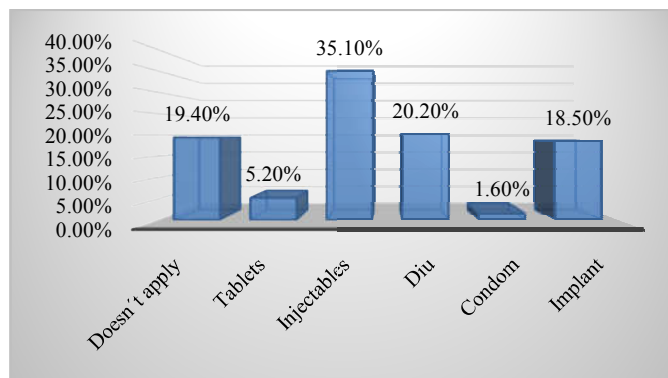


Source: Survey on knowledge of HPV in women of the ProsperaProgram of the health center of Zotoltitlan Gro; February 2020.

Graph N ° 3 Contraceptive Method Used

35.1% mentioned using hormonal injections, followed by 20.2% corresponding to the IUD, 18.5% have a subdermal implant, 5.2% hormonal pills and only 1.6% use condoms.

According to the results obtained, the largest number of women surveyed are exposed to the spread of HPV and other STIdue to the absence of condom use in the practice of sexual relations.

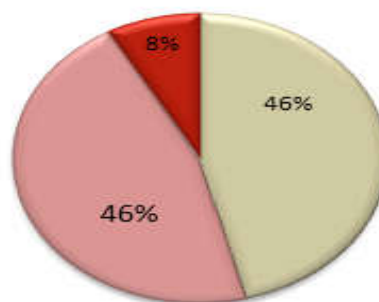


Source: Survey on knowledge of HPV in women of the ProsperaProgram of the health center of Zotoltitlan Gro; February 2020.

Graph N ° 4 Number of Children

The results indicate that 46% mention having 1 to 3 children as well as 4-6 and only 8% of 7-10 children.

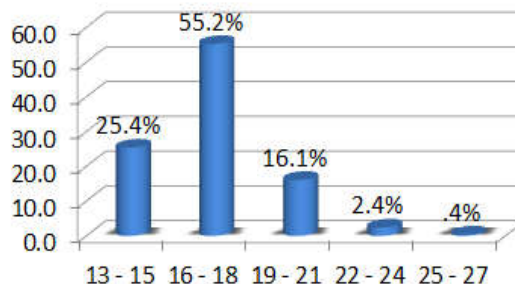
■ 1 - 3 ■ 4 - 6 ■ 7 - 10



Source: Survey on knowledge of HPV in women of the ProsperaProgram of the health center of Zotoltitlan Gro; February 2020.

Graph N ° 5 Age of First Sexual Relationship

The results obtained indicate that 25.4% had their first relationship between 13-15 years, 55.2% at the age of 16-18 being the highest percentage, while 16.1% corresponds to 19-21, 2.4% 22-24 and only .4% were between 25-27 years old.

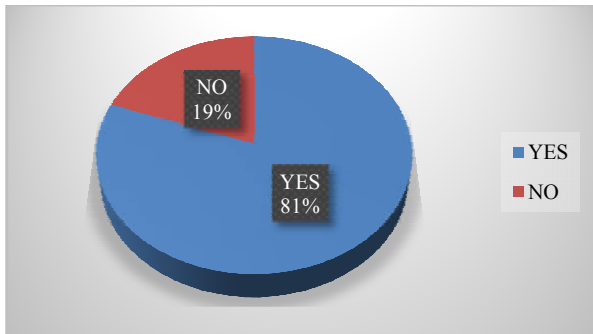


Source: Survey on knowledge of HPV in women of the ProsperaProgram of the health center of Zotoltitlan Gro; February 2020.

Graph N ° 6 Suffering from some vaginal infection

The highest percentage of women began their active sexual life before the age of 20, for this reason they have greater sexual

activity and therefore more time of exposure and chances of being in contact with different types of human papillomavirus. According to the results obtained, 81% mentioned not having had any vaginal infection and the rest of 19% did have an infection.



Source: Survey on knowledge of HPV in women of the ProsperaProgram of the health center of Zotoltiltan Gro; February 2020.

Table N° 2 Type of Infection

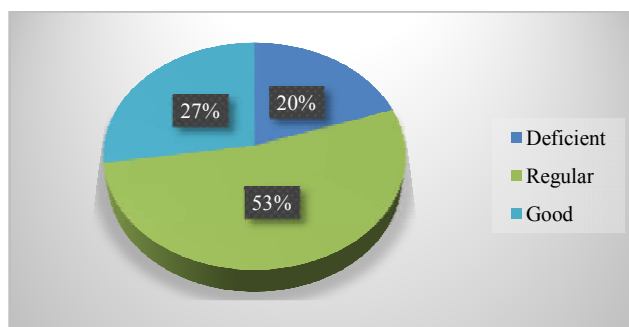
Regarding the type of infection they have ever acquired, 9.3% of women have HPV, 3.2% chlamydia, while 2.4% corresponds to herpes simplex, 1.6% Trichomonas, 1.2% gonorrhoea, .8% candidiasis and .4% condylomata acuminata.

Type of Infection	Frequency	Percentage
Don't apply	201	81.0%
Trichomonas	4	1.6%
Chlamydias	8	3.2%
Gonorrhea	3	1.2%
Condylomata Acuminata	1	.4%
Herpes Simplex	6	2.4%
Candidiasis	2	.8%
VPH	23	9.3%
Total	248	100.0%

Source: Survey on knowledge of HPV in women of the ProsperaProgram of the health center of Zotoltiltan Gro; February 2020.

Graph N° 7 Level of Knowledge

According to the level of knowledge about HPV, 19.7% have a deficient level, 52.8% regular being the highest percentage and 27.4% maintain a good knowledge. CONAPO indicates that the low level of knowledge about HPV creates fewer opportunities to combat the risks and consequences generated by being infected. (2014) In this way we can say that our population does not have a good knowledge regarding the Human Papilloma Virus, since only 27.4% obtained a good level of knowledge.



Source: Survey on knowledge of HPV in women of the ProsperaProgram of the health center of Zotoltiltan Gro; February 2020.

Table N° 3 Relationship of Sociodemographic Data With Knowledge

Regarding the sociodemographic variables, only a relationship was found between the level of schooling and knowledge about the human papillomavirus. ($X^2 .020$).

Sociodemographic data	Knowledge	
	Value X2	Asymptotic Significance
Age	11.692a	0.69
Current Occupation	.776a	.678
Scholarship level	11.611a	.020
Civil status	13.838a	.086
Religion	5.240a	.264

Source: Survey on knowledge of HPV in women of the ProsperaProgram of the health center of Zotoltiltan Gro; February 2020.

Table N°4 Relationship between knowledge, sexuality and use of contraceptive methods

Regarding the following variables, a relationship was found between the level of knowledge and the age at which it was their first sexual relationship ($\chi^2 .014$).

Sexuality and use of contraceptive methods	Knowledge	
	Value X2	Asymptotic Significance
Age of first sexual intercourse	19.159a	.014
Number of sexual partners	2.524a	.283
Use of contraceptive method	1.101a	.577

Source: Survey on knowledge of HPV in women of the ProsperaProgram of the health center of Zotoltiltan Gro; February 2020.

DISCUSSION

The human papilloma virus is one of the causes of the development of cervical cancer, a worrying problem in public health, due to the early initiation of sexual intercourse and the increase in the morbidity and mortality rate from cervical cancer.

In an investigation carried out by Clara I. Hernández-Márquez, the results were obtained that women showed a deficient level of knowledge with 23.2%, followed by 57.1% with regular knowledge and with good knowledge only 19.7% similar to our results since 19.7% have a deficient level of knowledge, 52.8% have a regular level of knowledge and 27.4% have good knowledge.

A study carried out by Dalgy Rodríguez González showed that more than 85% had their first sexual intercourse between the ages of 15 and 17, different from our results since 55.2% had their first sexual intercourse between the ages of 16 and 18.

CONCLUSION

According to the analysis of the results presented, it is concluded that in the women of the prospera program of the Zotoltiltan Guerrero health center, the age of 26 to 35 predominates, they dedicate themselves to housework, most of them have primary school incomplete. As a result, a poor level of knowledge regarding HPV was obtained.

Most of the women captured in this research are married and a high rate professes the Catholic religion. Regarding the relationship between sociodemographic data, there is a significant association between knowledge of HPV and level of study, as well as the age of the first sexual relationship, since 137 women of the 248 respondents mentioned having started their sexual life between 16 to 18 years.

Finally, it is important to mention that when you start an active sexual life before the age of 20, you have more sexual activity

and therefore more exposure time and chances of being in contact with different types of human papillomavirus or having a greater amount of inoculum, which leads us to conclude that the women of the prospera program in the Zotoltiltan community are latent to contract the human papillomavirus and that they have a poor knowledge about HPV, followed by an early onset of sexual life.

Recommendations

To Health Personnel:

- Spread the prevention of sexually transmitted diseases, especially the human papillomavirus.
- Implement new and apply existing health strategies to control HPV infection.
- Publicize the existence of STI control programs

To the community:

- Learn about sexually transmitted diseases and ways of prevention.
- Perform preventive gynecological check-ups.
- Get a Pap smear or cytology test.

To Nursing Students:

- Continue investigating similar studies, using as a resource the research instrument developed for this study, to identify other problems regarding the level of knowledge of human papilloma in other areas.
- Contribute to the dissemination of preventive programs.

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