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Community Based Cancer Screening – The 12 “I”s Strategy for Success*

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1. Introduction

Background of the study, in which the Editor has served as the Investigator at source 1.

Cluster Randomized Controlled Trial of Visual Screening for Cervical Cancer in Dindigul District, Tamil Nadu, India

Supported by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation through the Alliance for Cervical Cancer Prevention (ACCP)

Collaborators:

1. Christian Fellowship Community Health Centre (CFCHC), Ambillikai, India
2. Cancer Institute (WIA), Chennai (Madras), India
3. PSG Institute of Medical Sciences and Research (PSGIMSR), Coimbatore, India
4. World Health Organization-International Agency for Research Cancer (WHO-IARC), Lyon, France

A community based screening program was planned and the editor used the following strategies which ensured success:

The 12 “I”s Strategy

“Our experience in a Community Based Cervical Cancer Screening Programme and the strategies which helped us to be successful”

The 12 “I”s

1. **INITIATION**
2. **INFERENCE**
3. **IMBIBE**
4. **INSTALL**
5. **INSPIRE**
6. **INVOLVEMENT**

* Experience and Evidence Based Recommendations for Health Care planners especially in developing countries who undertake Cervical Cancer Screening projects in limited resource settings

- 7. INVITE
- 8. INSURE
- 9. INDIGENOUS
- 10. INSTITUTE
- 11. ILLUSTRATE
- 12. IMPROVE

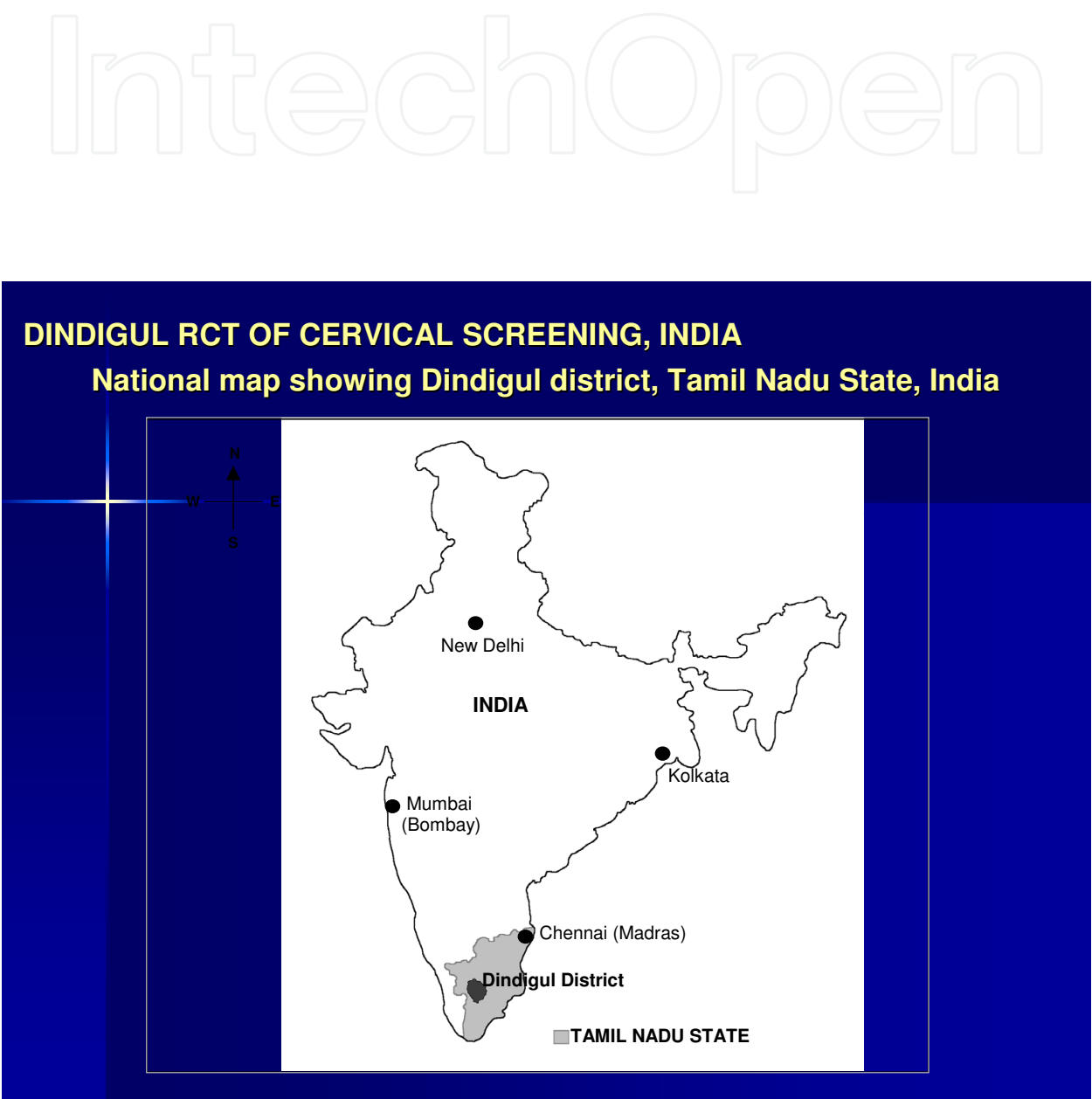


Fig. 1. Geographical location of the study area

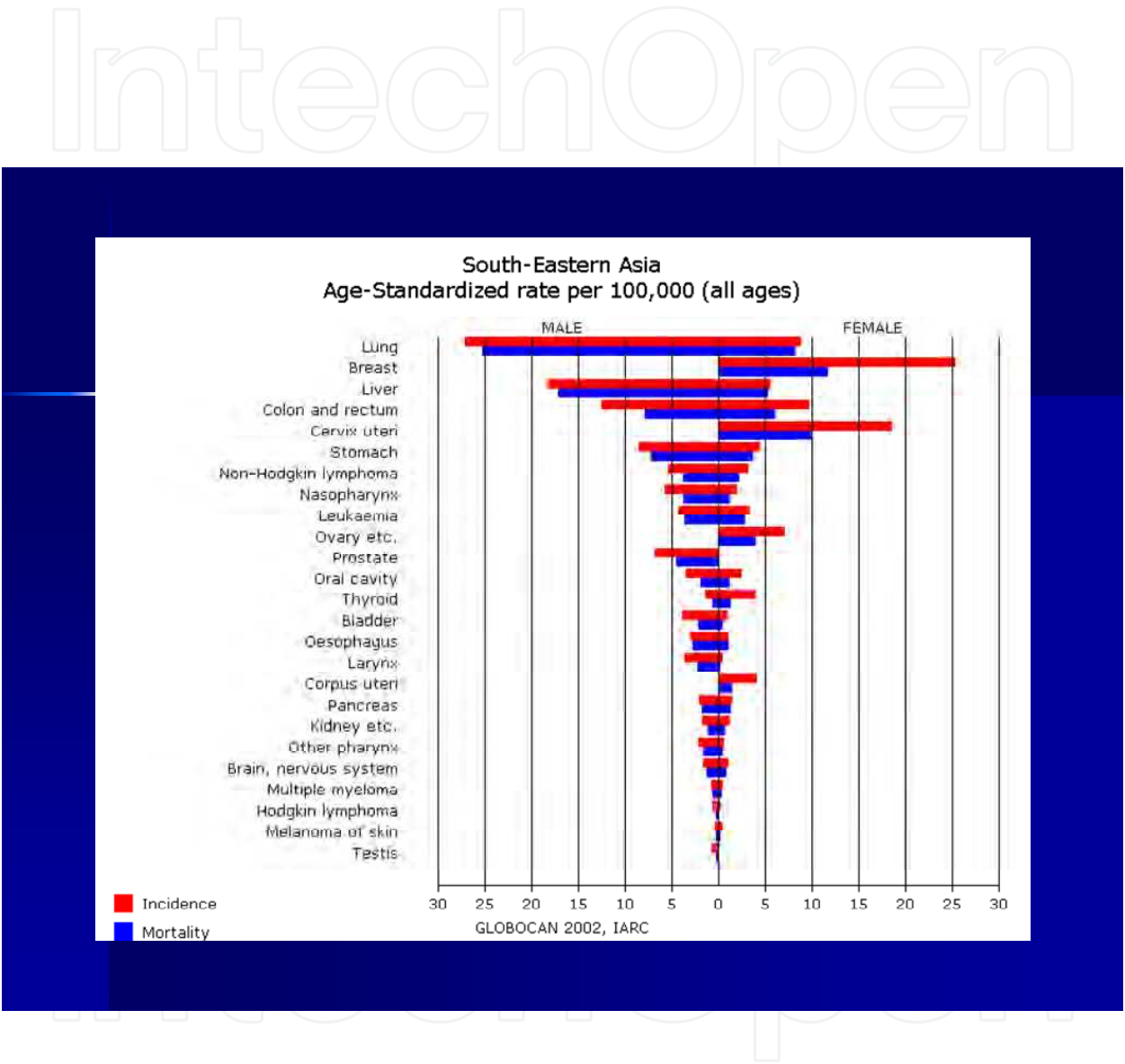


Table 1. Cancer Incidence in SE Asia: The need for screening is based on the following tables, showing high incidence of cervical cancer

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World - Females									
SITE	Incidence			Mortality			Prevalence		ICD-10
	Cases	Crude Rate	ASR(W))	Deaths	Crude Rate	ASR(W)	1-year	5-year	
Oral cavity	98373	3.2	3.2	46723	1.5	1.5	75769	273356	C00-C08
Nasopharynx	24247	0.8	0.8	15419	0.5	0.5	17786	63235	C11
Other pharynx	24077	0.8	0.8	16029	0.5	0.5	16630	52905	C09-C10,C12-C14
Esophagus	146723	4.8	4.7	124730	4.1	3.9	54159	129394	C15
Stomach	330518	10.7	10.4	254297	8.3	7.9	166436	522156	C16
Colon and rectum	472687	15.4	14.6	250532	8.1	7.6	362911	1315195	C18-C21
Liver	184043	6.0	5.8	181439	5.9	5.7	46521	111446	C22
Pancreas	107465	3.5	3.3	107479	3.5	3.3	26002	66596	C25
Larynx	20011	0.7	0.6	11327	0.4	0.4	15463	57944	C32
Lung	386891	12.6	12.1	330786	10.7	10.3	162377	423467	C33-C34
Melanoma of skin	81134	2.6	2.6	18829	0.6	0.6	75940	332953	C43
Breast	115129 8	37.4	37.4	410712	13.3	13.2	106004 2	4406080	C50
Cervix uteri	493243	16.0	16.2	273505	8.9	9.0	381033	1409265	C53
Corpus uteri	198783	6.5	6.5	50327	1.6	1.6	183528	775542	C54
Ovary etc.	204499	6.6	6.6	124860	4.1	4.0	153761	538499	C56,C57.0-4
Kidney etc.	79257	2.6	2.5	39199	1.3	1.2	57234	223235	C64-C66,C68
Bladder	82699	2.7	2.5	36699	1.2	1.1	64673	249966	C67
Brain, nervous system	81264	2.6	2.6	61616	2.0	2.0	37721	118861	C70-C72
Thyroid	103589	3.4	3.3	24078	0.8	0.8	89315	394698	C73
Non-Hodgkin lymphoma	125448	4.1	4.0	72955	2.4	2.3	86221	324184	C82-C85,C96
Hodgkin lymphoma	24111	0.8	0.8	8352	0.3	0.3	20178	87449	C81
Multiple myeloma	39192	1.3	1.2	29839	1.0	0.9	27925	84521	C90
Leukaemia	129485	4.2	4.1	97364	3.2	3.1	68394	221134	C91-C95
All sites but non-melanoma skin	506065 7	164.3	161.5	2927896	95.1	92.1	349095 7	13022650	C00-C96/C44

Table 2. Cancer Incidence Rates- World – Females

SITE	India - Females								
	Incidence			Mortality			Prevalence		ICD-10
	Cases	Crude Rate	ASR(W)	Deaths	Crude Rate	ASR(W)	1-year	5-year	
Oral cavity	30906	6.1	7.5	17106	3.4	4.2	22600	77170	C00-C08
Nasopharynx	1150	0.2	0.3	841	0.2	0.2	854	2912	C11
Other pharynx	7793	1.6	1.8	5858	1.2	1.4	4979	14558	C09-C10,C12-C14
Oesophagus	20805	4.1	5.1	17938	3.6	4.4	7418	17442	C15
Stomach	11743	2.3	2.8	9962	2.0	2.4	5636	15996	C16
Colon and rectum	13555	2.7	3.2	9351	1.9	2.2	9534	33015	C18-C21
Liver	4477	0.9	1.1	4264	0.9	1.0	1031	2256	C22
Pancreas	3506	0.7	0.8	3073	0.6	0.7	757	2414	C25
Larynx	3157	0.6	0.8	2075	0.4	0.5	2246	8081	C32
Lung	8046	1.6	2.0	6934	1.4	1.7	2646	6394	C33-C34
Melanoma of skin	882	0.2	0.2	471	0.1	0.1	698	2557	C43
Breast	82951	16.5	19.1	44795	8.9	10.4	71493	269470	C50
Cervix uteri	13208	26.2	30.7	74118	14.7	17.8	101583	370243	C53
Corpus uteri	6937	1.4	1.7	2707	0.5	0.7	6046	23584	C54
Ovary etc.	21146	4.2	4.9	16319	3.2	3.8	15339	53627	C56,C57.0-4
Kidney etc.	2129	0.4	0.5	1459	0.3	0.3	1247	4685	C64-C66,C68
Bladder	3031	0.6	0.7	1907	0.4	0.5	2319	8452	C67
Brain, nervous system	7530	1.5	1.6	6149	1.2	1.4	3570	10525	C70-C72
Thyroid	8686	1.7	1.9	4538	0.9	1.0	7187	31918	C73
Non-Hodgkin lymphoma	7389	1.5	1.7	5227	1.0	1.2	4190	14718	C82-C85,C96
Hodgkin lymphoma	2155	0.4	0.5	1047	0.2	0.2	1674	6523	C81
Multiple myeloma	2525	0.5	0.6	2044	0.4	0.5	1549	4249	C90
Leukaemia	9778	1.9	2.1	7977	1.6	1.7	4164	10630	C91-C95
All sites but non-melanoma skin	44759	88.8	104.4	284636	56.5	67.6	306532	1089125	C00-C96/C44

Mortality: Incidence and survival

Prevalence: Incidence and survival

Crude and Age-Standardised (World) rates, per 100,000

GLOBOCAN 2002, IARC

Table 3. Cancer Incidence Rates – India – Females



Fig. 2. The women need education and empowerment

2. INITIATION – of cancer registry

- POPULATION BASED CANCER REGISTRY IS A MUST FOR THE SUCCESSFUL IMPLEMENTATION OF A SCREENING PROGRAM
- There are Urban and Rural Population based Cancer registries
- Cancer registry is important to know the cancer pattern
- Priority for preventable cancers by screening, is an important use
- Our Ambillikai Cancer Registry, was population based rural cancer registry in India started in 1995, and its an Associate Member of the International Association of Cancer Registries

3. INFERENCE – of the cancer pattern

- Leads for the planning of control strategies
- Ambillikai cancer registry recorded one of the highest ASR for cancer cervix (65.4/ 100 000)
- This gave the lead for a community based cervical cancer screening programme

Supported by our publication:

“Leads to cancer control based on cancer patterns in a rural population in South India”

R.Rajkumar, R.Sankaranarayanan, A.Esmi, R.Jeyaraman, J.Churian & D.M.Parkin,
Cancer Causes and Control 2000; 11:433-39

4. IMBIBE – the appropriate technology

- Developing countries can seek technical support from developed nations
- Low resource settings need appropriate, affordable and accessible technologies
- Technical & Financial constraints to be overcome by resource development
- In rural India – Cervical Cancer Screening was not a health care priority
- Hence we offered once a life time – VIA, Colposcopy
- High risk approach is needed for selected population
- 80% PARTICIPATION was targeted, and achieved

Supported by our publication:

“Effective screening programmes for cervical cancer in low-and middle - income developing countries”

Rengasamy Sankaranarayanan, Atul Madhukar Budukh, Rajamanickam Rajkumar,
Bulletin World Health Organisation, 2001, 79(10) 954-962

5. INSTALL – resources

- Political Will & Commitment
- Manpower – train local health staff
- Materials – locally available equipments and local maintenance expertise
- Money – internal and/or external funds

Supported by our publication:

“Early detection of cervical cancer with visual inspection methods, A summary of completed and on – going studies in India”.

R.Sankaranarayanan , IARC/WHO, B.M. Nene , K.Dinshaw , R.Rajkumar , S.Shastri ,
R.Wesley ,P.Basu , R.Sharma , S.Thara , A.Budukh , D.M. Parkin , IARC/WHO
Public Health Journal of Mexico (Revista de Salud Publica de Mexico)

In commemoration with 80th Anniversary School of Public Health & 15th Anniversary
National

Institute of Public Health, Mexico, July 2002



Fig. 3. Use local manpower

6. INSPIRE – personnel

- Lighted to lighten, the health care providers play key role
- Financial incentives, motivates them
- Social recognition is very important in team work
- Appreciation means a lot for the workers
- Awards, titles, honours, cost little but the gain is big



Fig. 4. Inspiration and motivation of the Health care providers ensure success

- Even in the Olympics it is a small “MEDAL” which matters

7. INVOLVEMENT

- Involve both “ providers” & “recipients”
- All levels of micro & macro planning
- All levels of implementation
- When we hear we forget
- When we see we remember
- When we do we know

8. INVITE

- It is humans’ innate desire to be invited for participation
- Advertisements, Propaganda, Bombardment with information – may not work
- Invitation with genuine Interest by Influencers works well

Methods of Invitation

- Mass – Appeal to “Emotions” – Use the words “Mothers”, “ Wives”, “Sisters” instead of Women
- Families – Appeal to “Responsibilities” of the family towards the motherhood and their duty for “ mother’s” health
- Individuals – Appeal to their “self care and self esteem”

Who would invite ?

- The “Influencers”
- Medical personnel, village leaders, religious leaders, local healers, teachers
- Satisfied Customers
- Peer groups
- Family members
- Educating the school children have resulted in them bringing their mothers for screening – “tender roots split hard rock”

9. INSURE – holistic health

- Rural community does not appreciate “organ specific approach”
- Wholesome approach for holistic health is the demand
- Do whatever possible for total care – even counseling and advice are well received
- Health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well being and not merely an absence of disease or infirmity – Health for All



Fig. 5. A woman expects holistic health care from the provider

10. INDIGENOUS

- In thoughts, words and deeds
- “Cancer” is scaring, terrifying and people are afraid to get diagnosed as to have cancer
- Start from what they know and build from what they have
- Address their common complaints like “wdpv”, “abnormal bleeding pv” and then explain about precancer and cancer.
- Perform VIA, colposcopy and cryotherapy/LEEP and the “women get rid of their complaints” and we have done our “screening for cervical cancer” . Thus we have made the very “problem” as “indigenous”

Indigenous - Screening Environment

- People in villages are reluctant to get in to the huge vans or buses for screening as these are unusual environments to them
- Hence, screening clinics could be arranged in places which are frequently visited by the people, like health centre buildings, schools, ration shops, public utility buildings

Indigenous - Health personnel

- Like begets like
- Birds of the same feather flock together
- Screening could be done by trained local nurses and health workers
- Examination - Female to female and male to male
- Identification with the people in all possible ways ensures good compliance

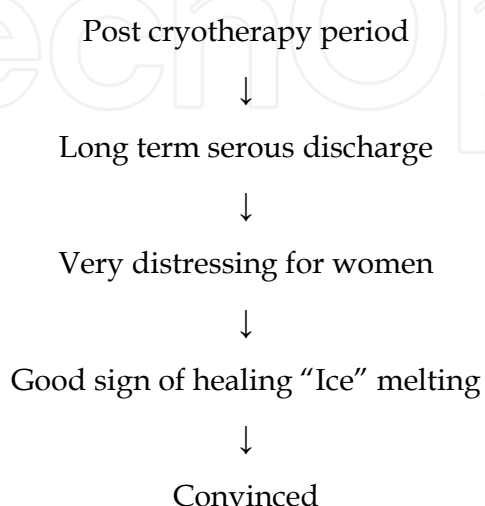
Indigenous in attitude

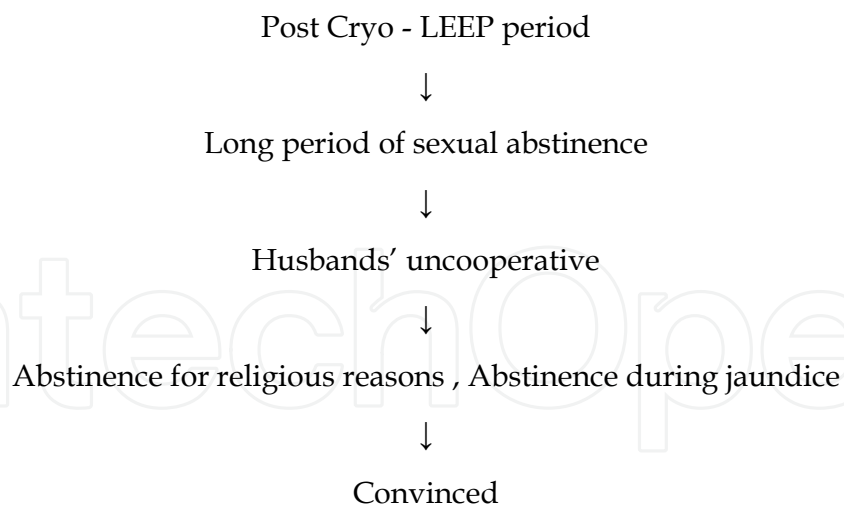
- Never say that the other is wrong, only that they may not be right
- Never call the local customs, beliefs, hopes, attitudes and practices as superstitions. It will hurt the feelings. Just guide them rightly.
- Screening clinics should ensure privacy, confidentiality in a pleasant atmosphere.
- All services under one roof and cordial relationship to be maintained
- No outside prescriptions, referrals
- Counsel the family as a whole, whenever possible

11. INSTITUTE – follow up

- In rural India, people greet each other by asking “ How are you ? ”
- People appreciate this gesture very much as it conveys one’s concern and regard
- If this is done in a scientific way it is called the “ follow up ”, and it should be done meticulously and frequently. The possible outcomes of the screening should be well explained before hand and the need for passive follow up should be well understood by the beneficiaries and their families.

How we tackled some of the problems!





Problem Solving

- Dialogues, Discussions would definitely Dissolve many of the Deterrent factors
- Communication gap closes the doors
- Careful and considerate listening are very important for community based programmes
- Counseling increases the community's compliance for the programme

Determinants of Participation

- Educational level
- Social status
- Economic status
- Type of family
- Severity of the disease
- Satisfactory services

Supported by our publication:

“Determinants of participation of women in a cervical cancer visual screening trial in rural south India”

Rengaswamy Sankaranarayanan, Rajamanickam Rajkumar, Silvina Arrossi, Rajapandian Theresa, Pulikattil Okkaru Esmey, Cerdric Mahe, Richard Muwonge, Donald Maxwell Parkin, Jacob Cherian

Cancer Detection and Prevention 27 (2003) 457 – 465

12. ILLUSTRATE – study findings

- The above strategies helped us to successfully complete one of the largest cervical cancer screening programmes done in rural areas.

Supported by our publication:

“Initial results from a randomized trial of Cervical Visual Screening in rural South India”.

R. Sankaranarayanan. R. Rajkumar, et al.

International Journal of Cancer 2004; 109, 461 – 467

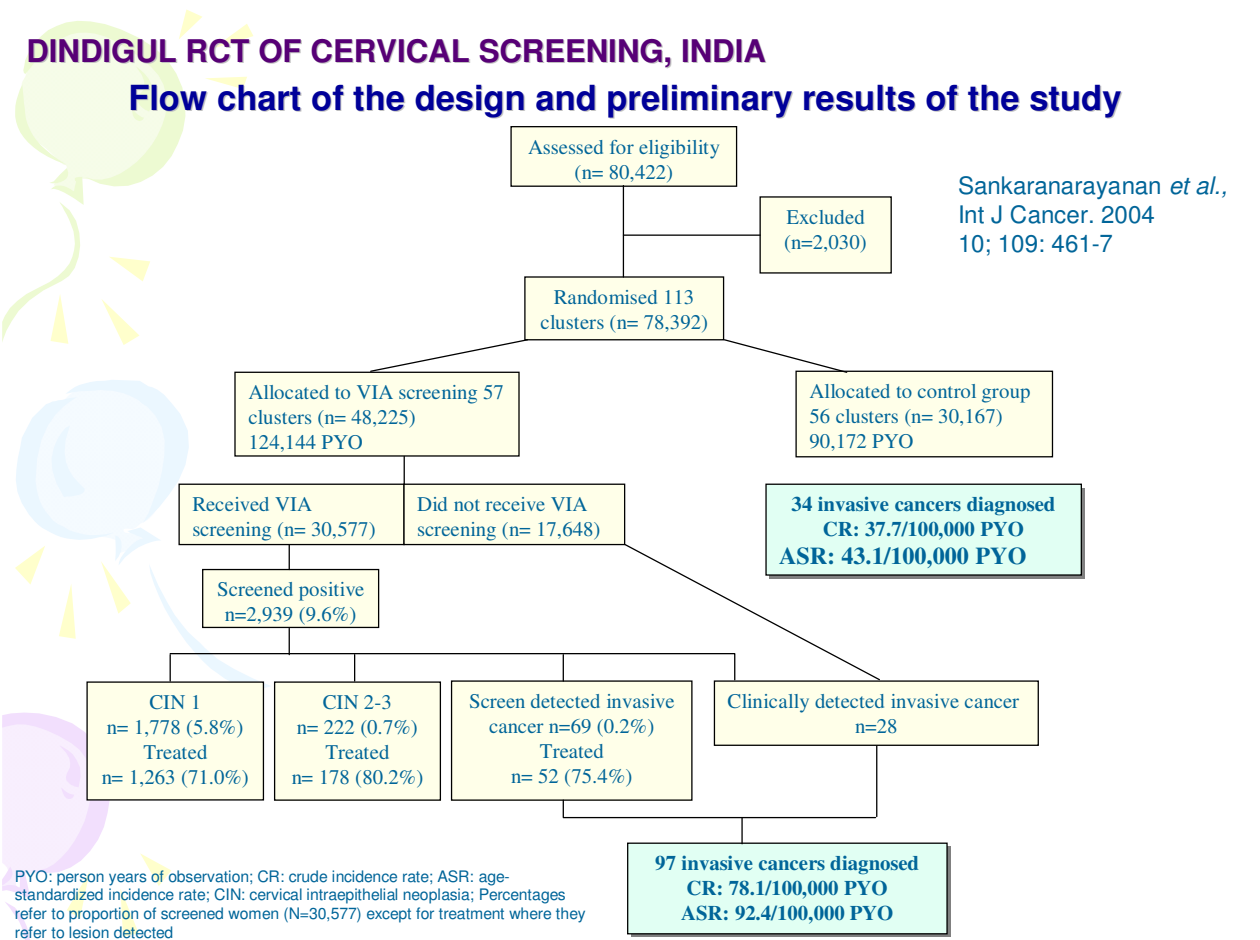


Fig. 6.

13. IMPROVE

Successful completion of a program improves capabilities of the health care providers and it leads to further research, like our other studies:

HPV Studies:

Study 1

Papillomavirus infection in rural women in southern India

Franceschi, R Rajkumar, PJF Snijders, A Arslan1, C Mahe, M Plummer, R Sankaranarayanan, J Cherian, CJLM Meijer and E Weiderpass, **British Journal of Cancer** (2005) 92, 601 – 606

Study 2

Worldwide distribution of HPV Types in Cytologically Normal Women: Pooled Analysis of the IARC HPV Prevalence Surveys

G. Clifford (PhD), S. Gallus (ScD), R. Herrero (MD), N. Muñoz (MD), P.J.F. Snijders (PhD), S. Vaccarella (ScD), P.T.H Anh (MD), C. Ferreccio (MD), N.T Hieu (MD), E. Matos (MD), M. Molano (PhD), R. Rajkumar (MD), G. Ronco (MD), S. de Sanjosé (MD), H.R. Shin (MD), S. Sukvirach (MD), J.O. Thomas (MD), S. Tunsakul (MS), C.J.L.M. Meijer (MD), S. Franceschi (MD) and the IARC HPV Prevalence Surveys (IHPS) Study Group, **Lancet** 2005;366(9490):991-8.

Study 3

HPV vaccine trial

“Preparation of a large, simple “phase IV” study of anti- HPV Vaccination in Asia”

Silvia Franceschi IARC/WHO, Richard Peto, T.Rajkumar, R.Rajkumar, Rengaswamy Sankaranarayanan, Soina Pagliusi, Teresa Aguado & Thomas Cherian, **Scientific Paper Submitted to the HPV International Conference – Floriano polis – June 2001.**

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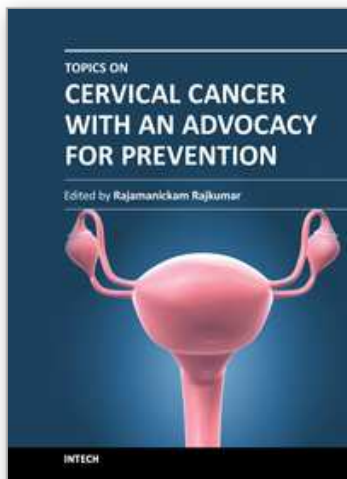
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Topics on Cervical Cancer With an Advocacy for Prevention

Edited by Dr. R. Rajamanickam

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Cervical Cancer is one of the leading cancers among women, especially in developing countries. Prevention and control are the most important public health strategies. Empowerment of women, education, "earlier" screening by affordable technologies like visual inspection, and treatment of precancers by cryotherapy/ LEEP are the most promising interventions to reduce the burden of cervical cancer. Dr. Rajamanickam Rajkumar had the privilege of establishing a rural population based cancer registry in South India in 1996, as well as planning and implementing a large scale screening program for cervical cancer in 2000. The program was able to show a reduction in the incidence rate of cervical cancer by 25%, and reduction in mortality rate by 35%. This was the greatest inspiration for him to work on cervical cancer prevention, and he edited this book to inspire others to initiate such programs in developing countries. InTech - Open Access Publisher plays a major role in this crusade against cancer, and the authors have contributed to it very well.

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