

#258 Mazin Khalil

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Association Between Receipt of Pap Smear Screening tests and Frequent Contact with Reproductive Healthcare Providers

Purpose: Visits to reproductive providers for other services provides an opportunity to provide cervical screening tests. This study assessed whether frequent access to reproductive care services was associated with increased receipt of pap smear screening for cervical cancer in New York City.

Methods: The study used data from the NYC HANES, a cross-sectional, population-based study that was conducted using a three-stage clustering sampling, with both biospecimen measures and self-reported data. The study population was limited to women, between the age of 20 to 64, who did not require a proxy for interview. We used the type of contraceptive reported by the women as a proxy for frequent visits to the reproductive care provider. The distribution of demographic factors between women who received contraceptives which required frequent reproductive health care visit were compared against women who did not have frequent visits using chi-square tests. Logistic regression was used to estimate the odds ratio and 95% Confidence intervals as the measure of association. Potential confounders were selected using a 10% change in the estimate.

Results: Our unweighted study population was 577 women (weighted =866). Women who had frequent reproductive visits for contraception were predominantly younger than those who used contraceptives that required less frequent visits (age ≥ 40 years 68.85% vs 44.89% respectively; $p < 0.001$). Our crude and adjusted analyses showed no association between frequent access for reproductive services and increased likelihood of receiving a pap smear. Crude OR 0.70 95% CI 0.28, 1.74; Adjusted 1.41 95% CI 0.57, 3.51).

Conclusion: There was no association between frequent visits for contraception to a health care provider and receiving a pap smear. We found significantly higher rates of pap smear screening in our NYC population compared to the US average. The fact that we found higher rates for NYC and no significant differences in receipt of pap smear