Attitudes and health beliefs associated with breast cancer and breast self examination behaviors among women working at University

Ezgi Özoğul[1], GultenSucu Dağ[2]
[1]Dr Nalbantoğlu State Hospital, Nicosia via Mersin, North Cyprus
[2]Eastern Mediterranean University, Famagusta via Mersin, North Cyprus

EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN UNIVERSITY

Objectives

This study aimed to determine their attitudes and beliefs about breast cancer and breast self-examination and to define the factors influencing the belief and attitudes of women working at Eastern Mediterranean University as an academic and an administrative staff.

Results 2

For women who had breast self-examination, a meaningful difference (p< 0,05) has been determined between the scores received at benefit perception, obstacle detection, confidence sense and health motivation.

Results 3

For women who had mammography, the scores on benefit perception and confidence sense sub-dimensions were higher than the women who had no mammography, and the difference between them was statistically meaningful (p< 0,05).

Methods

A total of 235 women participated in this study. Data was collected by the researcher using "Descriptive Characteristics Form" and "Champion's Health Belief Model Scale (CHBMS)".

Results 1

It has been determined that the sub-dimension scores of women at CHBMS varied between 7,38±2,33 and 33,40±6,99 and statistically had a meaningful difference (p< 0,05) at the obstacle sense sub-dimension according to the work they were doing (Table 1)

Table 1: Health Beliefs according to Women						
	Staff	n	x^2	s	Z	P
Susceptibility	Academic	99	7.48	2.29	-0.366	.715
	Administrative	136	7.31	2.37		
	Total	235	7.38	2.33		
Seriousness	Academic	99	21.66	5.87	-1.642	.101
	Administrative	136	20.28	6.61		
	Total	235	20.86	6.33		
Benefits	Academic	99	15.87	2.95	-0.237	.813
	Administrative	136	15.74	3.27		
	Total	235	15.79	3.13		
Barriers	Academic	99	23.05	6.00	-2.267	.023
	Administrative	136	24.70	6.24		
	Total	235	24.00	6.18		
Confidence	Academic	99	34.06	6.52	-1.377	.168
	Administrative	136	32.93	7.30		
	Total	235	33.40	6.99		
Motivation	Academic	99	27.68	4.79	-1.668	.095
	Administrative	136	26.42	5.58		
	Total	235	26.95	5.29		

Results 4

When clinical breast examination cases were analyzed, a meaningful statistical difference (p< 0,05) has been determined for other sub-dimensions except for sensitivity and the sense of seriousness.

Conclusions

In-service training programs should be held for women in order to increase their level of awareness on the importance of breast self-examination, clinical breast examination, and mammography in the early diagnosis of breast cancer. This study recommends that women should be informed about breast self-examination by the experts providing evidence-based documents since the source of information is visual and written press