

# A Study to Explore the Knowledge Regarding Pinkribbon among Female Students Studying in Preuniversity College, at Mangaluru

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**Abstract:- Breast cancer is a disease in which cells in the breast grow out of control. It can spread outside the breast through blood vessels and through lymph nodes. There is rapid increase in the incidence between the age 35 to 50 years and secondary rise in frequency after 65 years of age. In the world wide Over 1,00,000 new breast cancer patients are estimated annually in India. Cancer prevalence in India is estimated around 2.5 million with over 0.8 million new cases. Causes and risk factors of breast cancer are genetic factor, previous breast cancer, null parity, high socioeconomic status, early menarche, late menopause, diet high in total fat. Treatment of breast cancer requires mastectomy, lymph node removal, chemotherapy and radiation therapy based on level of lymph nodes involved. A quantitative approach was adopted to assess the knowledge regarding pink ribbon among female students. The investigator selected 30 female students of PUC Science group studying in Yenepoya school, Mangaluru. Non probability purposive sampling was used to select the desired size of female students.**

The study findings shows that 7(23%) students having moderate knowledge, 23(77%) students having inadequate knowledge and no samples having adequate knowledge. The study findings revealed that variables such as age in years, stream of study, age of menarche, past history of breast cancer in the family, source of information were significantly associated with knowledge of female students regarding pink ribbon at 0.05 levels. Hence it is concluded that most of them having inadequate knowledge regarding pink ribbon

## I. INTRODUCTION

“Treatment without prevention is simply Unsustainable” -Bill Gates. International women’s day is annually held on March 8 to celebrate women’s achievements throughout history and across nations, a day of celebration and reflection on progress made to promote and protect women’s equality and human rights. In India, women are becoming more and more aware of their health status as a result of modern education, electronics, print media and health agencies.

Women have made a progress in most of the field but still she tends to inexplicably neglect her own health. It is necessary to provide information to women regarding their health problems through the available community resources.

Pink Ribbon is the international symbol of breast cancer. Pink Ribbon and the colour pink in general identify the wearer or promoter with the breast cancer brand and express moral support for women with breast cancer. Pink ribbon are most commonly seen during National Breast Cancer Awareness Month and Colour pink is considered feminine in modern western countries. Pink ribbon evokes traditional feminine gender role caring for the other people, being beautiful, being good and being co-operative. Pink ribbon represents fear of breast cancer, hope for future, and charitable goodness of people and business publicly support the breast cancer movements. While specifically representing breast cancer awareness, pink ribbon is also a symbol of proxy of goodwill towards women in general.

Breast cancer is the most common malignancy in women all over India. Over 1,00,000 new breast cancer patients are estimated annually in India. Cancer prevalence in India is estimated around 2.5 million with over 0.8 million new cases. State-run Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology sees nearly 22,000 new cancer cases every year and of these over 850 are breast cancer cases. Reports saying that hospital hold increase in incidence of breast cancer may be due to lifestyle, specialists are focusing more on creating awareness about this second-most common cancer among women.

Early detection of breast cancer can make the disease easier to treat. The most important screening test for breast cancer is the mammogram. A mammogram is an x-ray of the breast. Screening mammography can help to reduce the number of deaths from breast cancer.

**II. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY**

- To explore the knowledge regarding pink ribbon among female students studying in Pre university college.
- To find the association between knowledge of female students regarding pink ribbon with selected demographic variables like age, stream of study, age of menarche, past history of breast cancer in the family, source of information.
- To prepare information booklet regarding pink ribbon.

**III. HYPOTHESIS**

There will be significant association between the knowledge of female students regarding pink ribbon with selected demographic variables like age, stream of study, age of menarche, past history of breast cancer in the family, source of information.

**IV. MATERIALS AND METHOD**

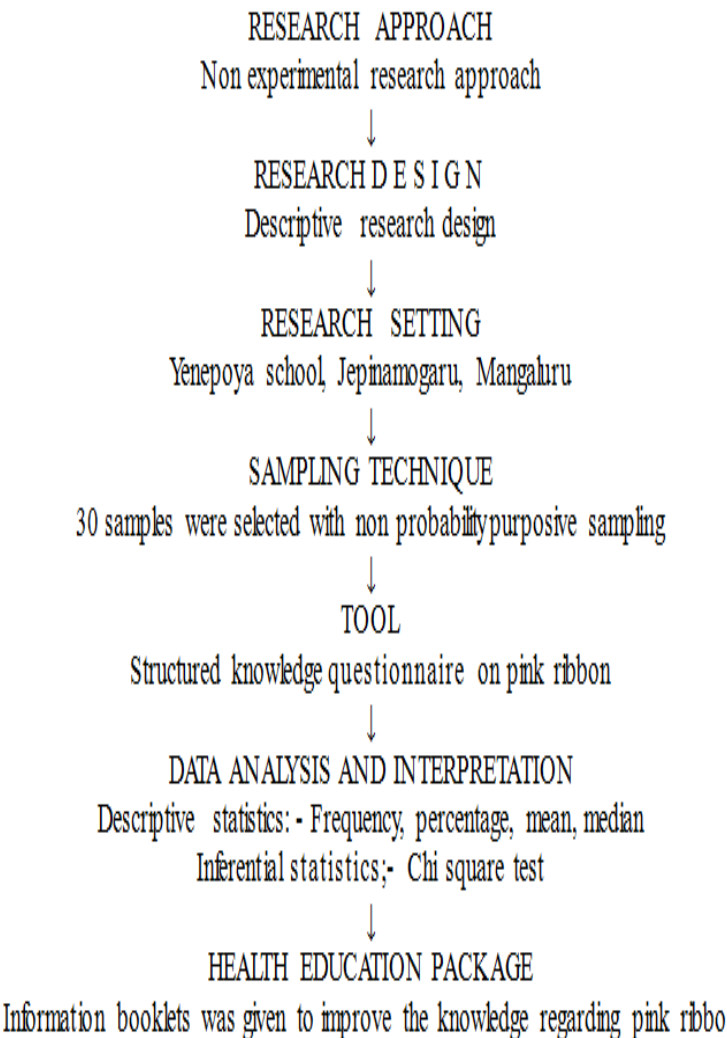


Fig 1:- Schematic Presentation of Research Process

➤ *Variables Under Study*

Variables are the qualities, properties or characteristics of persons, things, or situation that change or vary and are manipulated or measured in researcher.

• *Dependent Variable*

The dependent variable in this study was female students.

• *Independent Variable*

The independent variable in this study was knowledge regarding pink ribbon.

• *Demographic Variable*

Demographic variables were age, stream of study, age of menarche, past history of breast cancer in the family, source of information on breast cancer.

➤ *Population*

Population is the aggregation of all the units in which a researcher is interested. Population of the study was the female students with the age group of 14-17 years studying in pre university college Mangaluru .

➤ *Sample*

Sample for present study was 30 female students studying in PUC II science group at selected Yenepoya school, Jeppinamogaru, Mangaluru

• *Sampling Technique*

Non probability purposive sampling was adopted for the study. In this type of sampling, subjects are chosen to be part of the sample with a specific purpose in mind .The list of female students was obtained from the school office staff and the sample were selected. Out of 45 samples 30 samples were selected using non probability purposive sampling method from Yenepoya school, Jeppinamogaru, Mangaluru.

➤ *Criteria for Selecting the Sample*

• *Inclusion Criteria*

- ✓ Female students who are at the age between 14-17 years, who is studying in science group.
- ✓ Female students who are available during data collection.
- ✓ Female students who are willing to participate in the study.

• *Exclusion Criteria*

- ✓ Female students who are not at the age below 13 years.
- ✓ Female students who are not available during data collection.
- ✓ Female students who are from other groups.

➤ *Description of Data Collection Instrument*

The instrument consist of two parts

- Part 1: consist of demographic variables of subject like age, stream of study, age of menarche, past history of breast cancer in the family, source of information
- Part 2: structured knowledge questionnaire to assess the knowledge regarding pink ribbon

**V. ORGANISATION OF FINDINGS**

The data collected from subjects was organized and presented under the following sections

- Section 1- Demographic variable regarding pink ribbon among female students
- Section 2- Assessment of knowledge regarding pink ribbon among female students
- Section 3- Association between knowledge of female students regarding pink ribbon with selected demographic variables such as age, stream of study, age of menarche, past history of breast cancer in the family, source of information.

➤ *Section I: Distribution of Demographic Variables of Students.*

- Majority 23(77%) of girls were aged 15-16 years, 7(23%) students aged below 16-17 years and none of them belongs to 14 -15 years of age.
- Majority 16(53%) of the female students were attained menarche at 13-15 years, 9(30%) students were attained menarche at 11-12 years, 5(17%) students were attained menarche at the 8-10 years.
- Majority 3(10%) students having the past history of breast cancer in the family and majority 27(90%) having no past history of breast cancer in the family.
- Majority 15(50%) students got information from mass media, 3(20%) students got information from family history, 4(13%) students got information from lecturer, 8(27 %) students got information from other sources.

➤ Section II: Assessment of Knowledge Level Regarding Pink Ribbon among Female Students.

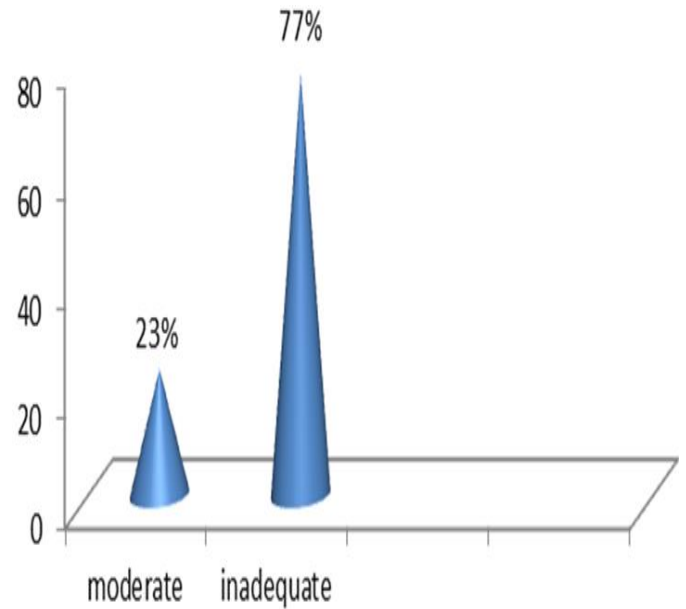


Fig 2:-

The data presented in figure 2 depicts that only 7(23%) students having moderate knowledge ,23(77%) students having inadequate knowledge and no one of the samples had adequate knowledge about pink ribbon.

## Section II (A): ITE M Wise Assess The Level of Knowledge Regarding Pink Ribbon among Female Students

SL. NO	ITEM	FREQUENCY(N)	PERCENTAGE(%)
1	Parts of female reproductive system	27	90
2	Female breast component	14	47
3	Age of breast changes in women	19	63
4	Definition of breast cancer	12	40
5	International symbol of breast cancer	28	93
6	Person introduced pink ribbon	9	30
7	World pink ribbon day	10	33
8	National breast cancer awareness month	12	40
9	Common age group of breast cancer	13	43
10	Cause of breast cancer	15	50
11	Factor contributing to breast cancer	12	40
12	Women at risk of breast cancer	8	27
13	Food item contribute to breast cancer	18	60
14	Type of breast cancer which is not spreading	13	44
15	Detection of inflammatory breast cancer	13	43
16	Measures to find abnormal breast change	14	47
17	Best time to perform breast self examination	15	50
18	Purpose of breast self examination	5	17
19	Procedure of breast self examination	2	7
20	Major symptom of breast cancer	19	64
21	Skin change of breast in breast cancer	4	13
22	Abnormal change of breast in breast cancer	11	37
23	Diagnostic measure of breast cancer	10	33
24	Treatment measure of breast cancer	14	47
25	Management of breast pain	10	33
26	Surgical management of breast cancer	15	50
27	Preferable diet to prevent breast cancer	8	27
28	Measure available to prevent breast cancer	12	40
29	Primary prevention of breast cancer	13	44
30	Complication of breast cancer	12	40

Table 1

Table 1: Describes the item wise knowledge female students regarding pink ribbon, among 30 samples, majority 27(90%) knew about the parts of female reproductive system, only 14(47%) had knowledge regarding female breast component, 19(63%) having knowledge about age of breast changes in women, only 12(40%) students knew about definition of breast cancer, 28(93%) students are aware about the international symbol of breast cancer awareness, 9(30%) students having knowledge about person introduced pink ribbon, 10(33%) students were aware about the world pink ribbon day,

12(40%) students had the knowledge regarding national breast cancer awareness month, 13(43%) students had the knowledge about the common age group of breast cancer, 15(50%) knew about the causes of breast cancer, 12(40%) students had the knowledge regarding the factors contributing to breast cancer, 8(27%) students knew about the women at risk of breast cancer, 18(60%) students had the knowledge about food items contributing to risk of breast cancer, 13(44%) students had the knowledge regarding type of breast cancer which is not spreading, 13(43%) students had the knowledge about detection of inflammatory breast

cancer,14(47%) students knew the measures to find abnormal breast change, 15(50%) students had the knowledge about best time to perform breast self examination,only5(17%) knew about the purpose of breast self examination, only4(13 %) were aware about the skin changes of breast cancer and 2(7%) are aware about procedure of breast self examination,19(64%) students were aware about the major symptom of breast cancer,11(37%) students had knowledge regarding abnormal changes of breast cancer,10(33 %) students knew about the diagnostic measures of breast cancer,14(47%) students knew about the treatment measure of breast cancer and 10(33%) students knew about the management of breast pain.15(50%) students had the knowledge about the surgical management of breast cancer, 8(27%) students knew about the preferable diet to prevent breast cancer, 12(40%) students aware about the measures available prevent breast cancer ,13(44%) students knew about the primary prevention of breast cancer and12(40%) students were aware about the complications of breast cancer.

The study revealed that majority 90% students having knowledge regarding female reproductive system and they did not having adequate knowledge about breast cancer . So that education regarding breast cancer was mandatory to create awareness regarding breast cancer.

#### ➤ Section III: Association between Knowledge Regarding Pink Ribbon among Female Students.

Study findings Reveals that there was only the source of information was significantly associated with knowledge on pink ribbon and selected demographic variables such as and there was no association between demographic variables such as age, stream of study, age of menarche, past history of breast cancer in the family.Hence the stated hypothesis was accepted.

## VI. CONCLUSION

Breast cancer is one of the most common cancer diagnosed in women and perceived as fatal problem. Proper education should be provided to the female students regarding breast cancer. study concluded that none of them having adequate knowledge regarding breast cancer and pink ribbon. So it is necessary to provide breast cancer awareness for the targeted groups like adolescence girls and women. Awareness helps to detect early sign of breast cancer so that incidence rate of breast cancer can be reduced.

#### ➤ Source of Funding - Self

## ETHICAL CLEARANCE

Ethical clearance was obtained from institutional ethical clearance committee .Principles of privacy confidentiality and voluntariness, informed consent was maintained with study samples.

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