Cervical Cancer Screening is Feasible and Cost Effective In Women with Substance Abuse Disorders

KATHERINE ROGG, BS
RACHEL REGN, MD
WILLIAM ROBINSON, MD
TULANE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
Disclosures

- My name is Katherine Rogg and I am a medical student at Tulane University School of Medicine.
- I have no financial or non financial relationships to disclose.
Grace House

- A residential substance abuse facility for women, opened in 1985
- Based in New Orleans, a large, urban city in the southern United States
- Requires intake history and physical for each woman prior to entry into program
Objective

- To determine the level of need, feasibility, and cost effectiveness of a cervical cancer screening program in a large, (cap. 70) inner city residential substance abuse facility for women.
Methods

- Prospective study
- Data Collected
  - Patient Demographics
  - Papanicolau (Pap) smear history
  - Liquid cytology and HPV results
  - STI results
  - Post Appointment Survey
- Time Frame: 2012-2015
Results

- 346 clients were accepted to Grace House from 2012-2015

- 305 clients accepted Pap test and STI screening when offered
## Results from Post Appointment Survey

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Number of subjects who agreed with statement (n=305)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“This service should be continued routinely”</td>
<td>208 (92%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“I cannot obtain these services elsewhere”</td>
<td>216 (71%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Diagnoses</th>
<th>Number of Subjects (n=305)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Positive for chlamydia and/or gonorrhea</td>
<td>305 (37%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abnormal Pap results</td>
<td>116 (38%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CIN Grade I-III (biopsy proven)</td>
<td>42 (13.8%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Invasive Cervical Cancer</td>
<td>2 (&lt;1%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Discussion

- Level of Need
- Cost-Effectiveness
- Feasibility
Percent of Women Who Have Received a Pap smear within past 3 years

*Data collected from “Health, United States, 2015”, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services*
Cost Effectiveness

- Average cost of program: $4,000 per year
  - Consumables
  - Professional services (cytology, STI test analysis)
  - All examinations/specimen collections are done by medical students (as part of their service requirement) with volunteer faculty supervision.

- Average Savings: $10,000 per year (based on average cost of referral for pelvic exam and pap test of $140 and an average of 100 referral a year)
Feasibility

- Grace House Clinic is managed by Tulane University School of Medicine students
- The clinic is staffed by volunteer Tulane physicians
- Results are collected and triaged by a clinic nurse, and reviewed by the Medical Director (both volunteers)
- Abnormal results requiring colposcopy are faxed directly to Tulane’s clinic
Final Thoughts

- In our study population of women undergoing substance abuse treatment, cervical cancer screening is feasible, cost-effective and appears to aid in prevention and early detection.
Acknowledgments

Many thanks to the Junior League of New Orleans for their generous grant supporting the clinic, the Grace House Administration, and the volunteer Tulane physicians who help staff the clinic.
Questions?