



# The result of promoting preventive cervical smear (Pap smear) services

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## Introduction

Cervical cancer is a significant disease, which threatened the life of many women. According to a report named "Leading causes of cancer deaths" published by the department of health, executive yuan, R.O.C (Taiwan) on 10/01/2009, cervical cancer is ranked sixth among the top ten causes of cancer death for women. A cervical smear (Pap smear) is the most practical and economical choice in turns of preventing cervical cancer because it is highly sensitive and early diagnosis can reduce the death rate by approximately 50 percents.

Thus, the national council of women of Taiwan, R.O.C and the department of health, executive yuan, R.O.C (Taiwan) cooperated to promote the "Six minutes, Life saving" activity, educating women who are over age of thirty to receive cervical smears annually, hoping to reduce the occurrences of cervical cancer death.



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A "Cervical smear (Pap smear) outpatient services" are created, which is free of registration fee and no waiting is required. Individual case managers are appointed responsible for registering the smears and following each cases carefully.

## Method

To increase the willingness of female patients who are aged more than thirty and didn't receive cervical smear (Pap smear) for more than one year, following measures are taken:

1. When registering via internet or a registering machine, an automatic window with a "haven't done cervical smear (pap smears) for more than one year," message will pop-up.
2. When patients visiting the obstetrics and gynecology department, an automatic window will remind the doctors that this particular patient haven't done Pap smear for more than one year.
3. When patients visiting other departments in our hospital, a cervical smear (Pap smear) referral sheet will be printed out automatically, and female patients can take this sheet to the obstetrics and gynecology department directly to receive examinations.
4. Cooperating with the local health facilities, cervical smear (Pap smear) stations are created in the communities to provide convenient services.
5. Considering the fact that Taiwanese women are conservative, our hospital have created a "women's center," which constitutes female doctors only conducting the cervical (Pap smear) examinations and diagnosis.
6. A "Cervical smear (Pap smear) outpatient services" are created, which is free of registration fee and no waiting is required.
7. Individual case managers are appointed responsible for registering the smears and following each cases carefully.

## Result

In the year of 2007, there were 16,316 female patients received cervical smears (Pap smears) in our hospital, furthermore this number increased to 22,932 in the year of 2008, a 40.6 percent increment was observed.

Among the 22,932 tests conducted during 2008, 3.07% were observed to be abnormal, the rate of tracing abnormal cases were 100% and the patient returning rate were 95.2%.

## Conclusion

Based on the goal of enhancing the health of the citizen, our hospital promotes cervical smear examinations (Pap smear examinations) via actively reminding our patients during their regular visits. In addition, efforts were made to penetrate the communities from the hospital providing female citizens accurate and convenient examinations, ultimately hoping to increase the chances of female citizen receiving their annual cervical smears (Pap smears). Lastly, Individual case managers will trace each case to ensure patients who received abnormal test results will return and treated appropriately in timely fashions to increase the survival rate of the patients.