



Knowledge Regarding Women’s Health: A Study of Kentucky University College Students

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BACKGROUND & SIGNIFICANCE

- In 2021, customers were asked by the MDVIP insurance company to participate in a survey measuring women’s health knowledge health insurance company, MDVIP, asked their knowledge and efforts to seek medical care. (MDVIP, 2022) Remarkably, 94% women failed the health quiz.
- 9 in 10 don’t know heart disease is the leading cause of death in women (91 percent). (MDVIP, 2022)
- In 2020, heart disease killed over 314,186 women. About 1 in 16 women aged 20 and older have coronary heart disease. (CDC, 2020)
- Only about 56% of US women recognize that heart disease is their number 1 killer (CDC, 2020)
- 8 in 10 don’t know the Pap test only screens for cancer of the cervix (81 percent). (MDVIP 2022)
- In 2018, Percent of women aged 18 and over who had a Pap test within the past 3 years: 66.0% (CDC, 2018)
- 7 in 10 don’t know drinking alcohol increases breast cancer risk (69 percent).(MDVIP, 2022)
- In 2019 264,121 new breast cancers were reported in females and 42,280 females died from breast cancer (CDC,2019)

PURPOSE AND HYPOTHESIS

Purpose

- The purpose of this study will be to assess the knowledge of women’s health on a sample of male and female college students attending a regional Kentucky university.
- Researchers will assess the knowledge regarding certain women health topics such as heart disease, breast cancer, HPV, cervical cancer, pap smears, and reproductive health.

Hypotheses

- It is hypothesized that college females will score significantly higher on the women’s health knowledge questions compared to college males.
- In addition, it is hypothesized that male and female college students will score less than 60% of the answers correctly.

METHODS

Participants

- This study will be a cross-sectional, descriptive study on a convenience sample of approximately 50 females and 50 males attending a regional Kentucky university.
- Approximately 10 faculty across a variety of departments will be sent an email explaining the purpose of the study and then asked to participate in the study.
- If a faculty member agrees, they will then be sent a link to the Women’s Health IQ Survey and asked to send the survey link from an email to their students via Blackboard.
- Once a student receives the email from their professor and clicks on the link, an informed consent statement will appear explaining the purpose of the study, any risks involved, assurance of anonymity and voluntary participation and contact information of the researcher.

Women’s Health IQ Survey

- The Women’s Health IQ Survey is a 25-question survey that was adapted from MDVIP, Annaleise Lohr by permission.
- The survey consists of 25 questions asking knowledge regarding heart disease, HPV, reproductive health, pap smears, cervical cancer, and breast cancer.
- More prone to die if they have a stroke. (MDVIP/Ipsos Women’s Health IQ Survey)

a. Males

b. Females

- Which of the following are 3 risk factors for endometriosis in women?

a. Poly cystic ovarian syndrome, breast cancer, and cervical cancer.

b. Starting your period at an older age, having multiple children back-to-back, and taking birth control (such as pill and depo shot).

c. Starting your period at an early age, having heavy periods, and never giving birth.

d. Being obese, being sexually active, and taking the morning after pill.

e. I don’t know what endometriosis is.

- The body’s immune system usually gets rid of HPV infections, so they don’t lead to cancer. (MDVIP/Ipsos Women’s Health IQ Survey)

a. True

b. False

- The Pap test screens for cervical, ovarian, and endometrial cancers. (MDVIP/Ipsos Women’s Health IQ Survey)

a. True

b. False

- To the best of your knowledge, does the following factor increase your risk of getting breast cancer? (MDVIP/Ipsos Women’s Health IQ Survey)

Never having a child

a. True

b. False

Previous Studies Using the MDVIP Women’s Health Survey

Women are uninformed about their own health



MDVIP study reveals American women fail to get the facts or care they need to address their greatest health risks.

94% of Women Fail Women’s Health IQ Quiz

- 91%** *don’t know* heart disease is the #1 killer of women
- 81%** *don’t know* Pap test only screens for cervical cancer
- 73%** *don’t know* lack of sleep can damage the brain
- 69%** *don’t know* drinking alcohol increases breast cancer risk



Figure 1:MDVIP Women’s Health Quiz findings MDVIP. (2021, May 6).

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