Knowledge of prostate cancer and screening attitude of residents

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Abstract

Background: Prostate cancer is the second most common cancer and the second leading cause of cancer-related death in males. In most developing countries including Nigeria, awareness and knowledge about prostate cancer is limited and screening is not popular. This study assessed the level of awareness and knowledge of prostate cancer amongst the residents of a town in Nigeria and its environs.

Materials and Methods: A cross-sectional descriptive study using self-administered questionnaires was carried out among 443 people, aged 20 to 80 residing in a town located in Nigeria. Data analysis was done with SPSS version 15.0. The level of significance was set at $p < 0.05$.

Results: The majority (45.1%) of respondents was aged between 31 to 40 years and only 41.3% were aware of the existence of prostate cancer. Educational background, occupation and religion were observed to significantly increase ($p < 0.05$) awareness of prostate cancer while gender and age did not.

Conclusion: The respondents in this study considered prostate cancer to be a serious ailment.

Keywords: Knowledge, Awareness, Prostate cancer, Screening, Attitude