

The Relationship between Health Literacy and Constructs of Theory of Planned Behavior and Breast Cancer Screening Tests Performance among Women Referred to Health Care Centers in Roshtkhar, 2015

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Abstract

Introduction: Health literacy is a measure of an individual's ability to read, comprehend, and act on medical instructions. According to the theory of planned behavior, the main cause of a behavior is intention. This study aimed to determine the association between health literacy and constructs of theory of planned behavior and Breast Cancer Screening Tests performance among rural women in Roshtkhar

Methods: This cross-sectional study was conducted on 250 women above age 35 years who were selected by Multi-stage random sample method from population covered by rural health centers of Roshtkhar. Data were collected by researcher-made questionnaire and questionnaire of Test of functional health literacy in adults. Data were analysed using SPSS software version 16, using descriptive statistics and Spearman correlation test, Kruskal-Wallis and linear regression models ($\alpha=0.05$).

Results: The mean age of participants was 39.6 ± 4.84 years. The Kruskal Wallis Test was shown a significant relationship between Breast Cancer Screening Tests performance and Health Literacy ($p < 0.001$). The Spearman correlation was shown a significant correlation between Subjective norms ($r=0.49$, $p < 0.001$), Attitude ($r=0.40$, $p < 0.001$) and health literacy. Linear regression showed that 40 percent of the variance in behavior was predicted by constructs of theory of planned behavior.

Conclusions: The theory of planned behavior could be used as an appropriate theoretical framework for the design and implementation of health literacy and breast cancer interventions.

Keywords: Health Literacy, Theory of Planned Behavior, Breast Cancer, Screening, Women.